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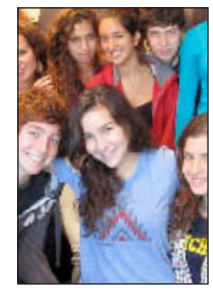

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Washtenaw Jewish News
c/o Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor
2939 Birch Hollow Drive
Ann Arbor, MI 48108

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WASHTENAW JEWISH NEWS

November 2010 Cheshvan/Kislev 5771 | Volume XXXV: Number 3 | FREE

Joan Nathan to open Jewish Book Festival

Mimi Weisberg, special to the WJN

Joan Nathan, author of *Quiches, Kugels and Couscous,* will open the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor's 23rd Annual Jewish Book Festival on Monday, November 1, at 7:30 p.m. A dessert reception, generously donated by Lori Shepard of Simply Scrumptious Catering, will begin at 7 p.m. Joan Nathan's event will be moderated by Ari Weinzweig, co-founder of Zingerman's Deli.

Travel to France with Joan Nathan and discover a new way to look at Jewish cuisine. What is Jewish cooking in France? Nathan takes us into kitchens in Paris, Alsace, and the Loire Valley; she visits the bustling Belleville market in Little Tunis in Paris; she breaks bread with Jewish families around the observation of the Sabbath and the celebration of special holidays. All across France, she finds that Jewish cooking is more alive than ever: traditional dishes are honored, yet have acquired a certain French finesse. And completing the circle of influences: following Algerian independence, there has been a huge wave of Jewish immigrants from North Africa, whose stuffed brik and couscous, eggplant dishes and tagines—as well as their hot flavors and Sephardic elegance—have infiltrated contemporary French cooking. All that Nathan has tasted and absorbed is in this extraordinary book, rich in a history that dates back 2,000 years and alive with the personal stories of Jewish people in France today.

Joan Nathan

In 1994 Nathan published the much-acclaimed *Jewish Cooking in America,* which won both the James Beard Award and the IACP/Julia Child Cookbook of the Year Award; as well as *An American Folklife Cookbook*, which received the R.T. French Tastemaker Award in 1985. She most recently wrote *The New American Cooking* which also won the James Beard and IACP Awards as best American cookbook published in 2005. Her other books include *Foods of Israel Today*, *Joan Nathan's Jewish Holiday Cookbook*, *The Jewish Holiday Baker*, *The Children's Jewish Holiday Kitchen*, *The Jewish Holiday Kitchen*, and *The Flavor of Jerusalem*. In 2004 she was the Guest Curator of Food Culture USA, the 2005 Smithsonian Folklife Festival on the National Mall in Washington, DC, based on the research for her book, *The New American Cooking.*

Nathan's PBS television series, *Jewish Cooking in America with Joan Nathan*, was nominated in 2000 for the James Beard Award for Best National Television Food Show. She was also senior producer of *Passover: Traditions of Freedom*, an award-winning documentary sponsored by Maryland Public Television. Nathan has appeared as a guest on numerous radio and television programs including the *Today Show*; *Good Morning, America*; *Live with Regis and Kathie Lee*, *The Martha Stewart Show* and National Public Radio.

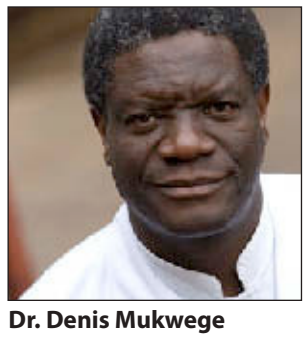
An inductee to the James Beard Foundation's Who's Who in American Food and Beverage, she has also received the Silver Spoon Award from *Food Arts* magazine. In addition, Nathan received an honorary degree from the Spertus Institute of Jewish Culture in Chicago and the Golda Award from the American Jewish Congress.

Joan Nathan was born in Providence, Rhode Island. She graduated from the University of Michigan with a master's degree in French literature and earned a master's in public administration from Harvard University. For three years she lived in Israel where she worked for Mayor Teddy Kollek of Jerusalem. In 1974, working for Mayor Abraham Beame in New York, she cofounded the Ninth Avenue Food Festival. The mother of three grown children, Nathan lives in Washington, DC and Martha's Vineyard with her husband, attorney Allan Gerson. ■

Dr. Denis Mukwege to receive University of Michigan Wallenberg Medal

Wendy Ascione, special to the WJN

The 20th University of Michigan Wallenberg Medal will be awarded to Congolese physician Denis Mukwege. After the medal presentation, Mukwege will deliver the Wallenberg Lecture. The event will take place on November 16, at 7:30 p.m., in Rackham Auditorium, on the U-M campus.



Dr. Denis Mukwege

Dr. Mukwege is a leader in the movement to highlight the continued problem of sexual violence in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. He is the director of Panzi Hospital, in Bukavu in the eastern Congo, where he specializes in the treatment of women who are victims of the sexual violence that since the 1990s has been part of the catastrophic civil wars in the Congo and Rwanda. He is one of the world's leading experts on how to repair the internal physical damage caused by rape.

The 12-year war in the Congo, centered mainly in eastern Congo, is the widest interstate war in modern African history. It has directly affected the lives of 50 million Congolese people. More people have died in the eastern Congo and adjacent regions than in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Darfur combined.

"The conflict has become a war against women," according to a 2007 *CNN* report,

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Frankel Center hosts lecture by renowned Holocaust scholar Ken Waltzer

Kim Reick Kunoff

On April 11, 1945, American soldiers in the U.S. Third Army moved into Weimar, Germany, and descended on Buchenwald, a Nazi concentration camp. There, among the walking skeletons and piles of corpses, the soldiers were surprised to discover nearly one thousand boys among the twenty-one thousand survivors. Most were teenagers, but almost two hundred were under fourteen – and the two youngest children were four years old.

Buchenwald

Among these youths was 16-year-old Elie Wiesel, who would later go on to write *New York Times* bestseller *Night*, win the Nobel Peace Prize, and chair the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council. Israel Meir Lau (Lulek) was also part of the rescue. He was eight years old and would become Israel's Chief Ashkenazi Rabbi as well as the Chief Rabbi of Tel Aviv, Israel, win the Israel Prize, and chair Yad Vashem, where he still is today.

How was Elie Wiesel still alive? Who had kept Meir Lau safe? What about the others? Was there a rescue operation aimed at protecting children and youths in the Nazi camp? How could a rescue take place in a concentration camp?

In his November 9 lecture, "The Rescue

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NOVEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

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Gallery

Oct. 1–Dec. 22
Exhibit: *From Trace to Text: Highlights from the UM Papyrus Collection,* in the Audubon Room

Oct. 1–Nov. 30
Exhibit: *U-M and the Peace Corps: It All Started Here*, in the Gallery

Wed., Nov. 3rd
7:00-8:30 pm
Buzz Alexander, author of *Is William Martinez Not Our Brother?: Twenty Years of the Prison Creative Arts Project*

Thurs., Nov. 4th
4:00-5:30 pm
Monica Ponce de Leon, U-M Dean of Architecture, gives the first talk of the Carl D. Winberg, MD lecture series on architecture

Tues., Nov. 9th
7:00-8:30 pm
John Hammock, co-author of *Practical Idealists*, talks about determining your true passions and making choices in your life

Thurs., Nov. 11th
7:00-8:30 pm
Tony Collings, author of *Capturing the News,* talks about his memoir and critique of journalism based on 34 years as a reporter

Tues., Nov. 16th
7:00-8:30 pm
Joe DeMatio, of *Automobile Magazine*, talks about his article "Omaha Beach to the River Elbe: A Son Retraces His Father's WWII Footsteps 66 Years Later"

Wed., Nov. 17th
5:30-7:00 pm
Dakota, or What's a Heaven For: A conversation with author Brenda Marshall and Tom Fricke, Department Chair, U-M Department of Anthropology

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All events are free and open to the public. For more information about these events, and to see a complete listing of events, go to:

www.lib.umich.edu/gallery/events

Stand strong against anti-Semitism

By Henry Brysk

I was stunned to read an op-ed piece in the October *Washtenaw Jewish News* that claimed that American Jews are " largely free of" any serious impact of anti-Semitism and that the only remaining task in eliminating bigotry in the US is to fight anti-Muslim prejudice. I realize that students tend to have a short attention span and are therefore susceptible to the " cause du jour" syndrome, but this is a case of monumental cluelessness. I suggest that the authors read the Intelligence Report of the Southern Poverty Law Center, which tracks American extremists of all flavors. (It is currently accessible online at http://www.splcenter.org/get-informed/intelligence-report). One will find that there is no dearth of hate crimes in the US and that there is an almost unlimited diversity of ethnic and religious identities, both among the victims and among the perpetrators. Blacks are still the most frequently targeted (mostly by Anglo Whites, also by Latinos); the reverse also occurs, but is less frequent. Next, and rapidly increasing, are attacks on Hispanic immigrants (by Anglos and Blacks). There have been bursts of gay-bashing (by perpetrators of all ethnicities). For the past year, the Intelligence Report counted just over one hundred offenses against Muslims. It also counted more than ten times as many against Jews. No group is immune: A gunman shot several people in a Jewish school in Los Angeles and then killed a Filipino. Hate crimes (as opposed to hateful rhetoric) are much rarer on college campuses. Most conspicuous has been the terrorization of Jewish students at UC Irvine by an organization of Muslim students.

The ideologies cited as inspiration by the perpetrators of hate crimes are many, both secular and religious. But the groups and doctrines often cross-breed and intermix, leading to the suspicion that the taste for violence is primary, the excuse an afterthought. The remaining fragments of the Ku Klux Klan are fading and being subsumed by feuding factions of neo- Nazism (cf. David Duke). There are militias and skinheads. There are apocalyptic cults lumped as Christian Identity (improbably including some Black separatists). There is Louis Farrakhan. And, yes, there is Al Qaeda in the US. Imports include sprouts of Nazism that redefined themselves after the Reich fell. In the Middle East, the Arab Socialist Party (Ba' ath), founded in emulation of the National Socialist Party of Germany, switched to Stalin as patron after Hitler was no longer available. In South America, the Argentine dictator Juan Peron welcomed Nazi war criminals, but the Peronists somehow have come to be described as of the Left (particularly the Argentine freebooter Che Guevara), as has the Venezuelan reincarnation of Peron, Hugo Chavez. I could add a lot more. What is remarkable is that all, regardless of their primary objective, have found room for anti-Semitism on their agenda. For instance, when it runs out of mourners at military funerals to harass, the Phelps cult picks on synagogues. Arthur Schlesinger, Jr. stated some fifty years ago that the political spectrum is not a straight line but a circle, with the extremists of Left and Right largely indistinguishable. Today, it is more a sphere, with the added dimension of religion.

They say that charity begins at home. So should the fight for religious freedom. Only one religious institution in Ann Arbor has been subjected to harassment, Beth Israel Congregation. The events and the perpetrators have been extensively described in several recent issues of *WJN*, so I will not repeat them (though the authors of the op-ed chose to ignore them). I will just make one elementary point: if people intend to protest against Israel (in this case, not just some policies of the State but its very existence), they might be expected to demonstrate in front of an Israeli government institution. Demonstrating in front of an American house of worship makes no sense, unless such pickets accept the doctrine of the " Protocols of the Elders of Zion" that all Jews are united in a conspiracy to take over the world and that each and every Jew is accountable for the perceived failings of any other Jew anywhere. This is the crudest form of antisemitism (even when it masquerades as foreign policy debate). Martin Niemöller called for speaking up even when one is not in the group they are coming after (Jews in particular), but the valiant pastor did not contemplate that the targets themselves would keep silent. Jews who will not speak up for themselves have no credibility in speaking up for others. Indeed, they wind up politically impotent.

Chuck Warpehoski intrigued successfully to bypass the city' s Human Rights Commission and push through a recent Ann Arbor City Council resolution from which he had edited out any mention of the Beth Israel harassment. His triumph suggests that 5th Ward Council Member Carsten Hohnke concluded that the synagogue stalkers and their sympathizers exerted more political leverage than their critics. Why Warpehoski, as spokesman for the political advocacy group that calls itself Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice, made such a major effort not to have the synagogue harassment condemned is a troubling question. A final comment: As a Holocaust survivor, I learned long ago that appeasement does not work. ■

WASHTENAW JEWISH NEWS

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Ann Arbor, Michigan 48108
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The Washtenaw Jewish News is published monthly, with the exception of January and July. It is registered as a Non-profit Michigan Corporation. Opinions expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect those of its editors or staff

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American Jewish Press Association

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Signed letters to the editor are welcome; they should not exceed 400 words. Letters can be emailed to the editor at WJN.editor@gmail.com. Name will be withheld at the discretion of the editor.

Circulation: 5,000
Subscriptions:
$12 bulk rate inside Washtenaw County
$18 first-class subscription

Deadline for the December/January issue of the *Washtenaw Jewish News*, is Friday, November 5.
Publication date: Wednesday, November 24
Extra copies of the *Washtenaw Jewish News* are available at locations throughout Washtenaw County.

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Highlights of this year's Book Festival

Mimi Weisberg, special to the WJN

Joan Nathan

Ari Weinzweig

Marilyn Berger

Linda Grekin

Laura Pershin Raynor

Sam Hoffman

Dan Levin

Join book lovers at the 23rd annual Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor Jewish Book Festival "special events." The festival will host twenty-seven authors at eighteen events this year. The "special events" include: Opening Night with Joan Nathan, moderated by Zingerman's co-founder Ari Weinzweig; Tikkun Olam event with Marilyn Berger; Grandparents are Great!, featuring Linda Grekin and Laura Pershin Raynor; Sponsor Night with Sam Hoffman; Book Club Night with Dan Levin; Kristallnacht Commemoration Day with Michael Hirsh and the number one film of the Ann Arbor Jewish Film Festival, *No. 4 Street of Our Lady*; Lunch with the Authors; Ladies Night Out with Zoe Fishman; Books and Bagels with Ethan Zohn; and a community favorite, Local Authors Luncheon.

The Jewish Book Festival's Sponsor Night will feature Sam Hoffman and his book *Old Jews Telling Jokes*. The event will begin at 6 p.m. on November 7, with a dinner reception with the author for sponsors who have given $180 or more to the Book Festival. The talk, which will begin at 7:30 p.m., is open and free to the community. The event, co-sponsored by Carol and Herb Amster; Pam and Steve Landau; and the Jewish Cultural Society, will be a humorous celebration of Jewish language and culture.

Book Club Night at the Jewish Book Festival will feature University of Michigan alum, Daniel Levin, who will present his book, *The Last Ember*, on November 8, at 7 p.m. Join Levin for this compelling and thought-provoking page-turner with your book club. A special package for book clubs include the book, study guide and dessert for $15. The event is $5 for the public and includes a dessert reception. The evening is sponsored by Fran and Irwin Martin.

New to the Jewish Book Festival this year is Lunch with the Authors. Participants will be treated to three outstanding authors: Sharon Pomerantz, author of *Rich Boy*; Katherine Rosman, author of *If You Knew Suzy*; and Jessica Jiji, author of *Sweet Dates of Basra*. Sharon Pomerantz is a professor at the University of Michigan, Katherine Rosman is a *Wall Street* journalist and Jessica Jiji is a Sephardic Jew and a speechwriter at the United Nations. This exciting program will include a delicious lunch and presentations by the authors. The event is open to the public and is $15. This event is co-sponsored by Leslie and Norman Bash; Lauren and Eric Metzendorf; Bobbie and Mike Levin;e and Molnar's Roofing.

Celebrating our Community's Creativity is the theme of the Local Authors Luncheon on November 14 at 12:30 p.m. Featured authors are: Jay Carp, Peter D. Jacobson, Danielle McGuire, David Erik Nelson, Mitchell Rycus, David Schoem, Eugene Silverman, Emanuel Tanay, and Joan Zald. The event co-sponsors are: Susan and Mark Orringer; Elaine and Barry Margolis; Huron River Press; and The Frankel Center for Judaic Studies. It is free and open to the public. All of these programs will take place at the JCC. For more information, contact Mimi Weisberg at 971-0990 or email: mimiweisberg@jccfed.org. ■

Michael Hirsh

Zoe Fishman

Ethan Zohn

Sam Hoffman

Sharon Pomerantz

Katherine Rosman

Jessica Jiji

Heroes focus of Jewish Book Festival programs

Mimi Weisberg, special to the WJN

According to Leslie bash, JCC executive director, The Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor will present authors to the Washtenaw County community who have made a significant difference in improving the world. "We hope that each event will captivate the audience and compel the participants to work towards positive change in our community."

This year's Tikkun Olam event co-sponsored by Beth Israel Congregation; Joan Lowenstein and Jonathan Trobe; and Myrna and Newell Miller; will feature New York Times journalist Marilyn Berger. Rabbi Robert Dobrusin will introduce Berger as she presents her book, This is a Soul: The Mission of Rick Hodes at the Book Festival on November 2 at 12:30 p.m. The book eloquently paints the story of how Dr. Hodes treats poor patients in Africa, provides compelling historical context, and also shares details of the author's personal experiences in Ethiopia. Currently Dr. Hodes is raising money to send 12 children to Ghana for much needed spine surgery. Lunch can be purchased at the JCC for $12 at noon. The author will speak at 12:30 p.m.; the talk is free and open to the public. The JCC will donate all canned goods that are brought to this event to Food Gatherers.

The JCC will commemorate Kristallnacht on November 9 with two events. University of Michigan Professor Don Brown will introduce Michael Hirsh who will talk about his book, *The Liberators* at 12:30 p.m. Lunch will be available for $12 at noon. The book reveals what the Americans, who liberated the concentration camps, experienced at the end of World War II. In the evening at 7:30 p.m., the JCC will show the award-winning film: *No. 4 Street of Our Lady*. The film tells the remarkable story of a Polish-Catholic woman who rescued 16 of her neighbors during the Holocaust while cleverly passing herself off as a Nazi sympathizer. Irene Butter will introduce this powerful film. Tickets cost $10. Kristallnacht Commemoration Day is co-sponsored by Naomi and Theodore Harrison; Carolyn and Larry Hiss; and Hiller's Markets.

At 10 a.m. on November 14, the JCC will present Ethan Zohn. Zohn is a professional soccer player, winner of the TV series *Survivor*, author, philanthropist and motivational speaker. He took part of his proceeds from *Survivor* and began an organization called Grassroots Soccer. This organization trains professional soccer players to teach African children about HIV/AIDS prevention. Zohn is a survivor or Hodgkin's disease and was named one of *People* magazine's Helpers of the Year. He will present his book: *Soccer World; South Africa* at the JCC and is free and open to the public. Ethan's presentation is sponsored by Karen and Harry Silverman. ■

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Local Author Luncheon set for November 14

Halye Aisner, special to the WJN

The Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor 23rd Annual Book Festival will host a Local Author Luncheon on Sunday, November 14 at 12:30 p.m. This event, which celebrates Ann Arbor's creativity, is an opportunity to hear about new books from talented authors living in the area. Each author will discuss his or her book and answer questions. A complimentary light lunch will be served. The Local Author Luncheon is sponsored by the Frankel Center for Judaic Studies; Susan and Mark Orringer; Huron River Press; Patti Aaron; and Gale and Martin Stolzenberg.

Jay Carp, *The Patriots of Foxboro*

The Patriots of Foxboro is an absorbing tale reflecting on a wrenching time in recent American history, the Vietnam War. The novel underscores very different and conflicting perceptions of patriotism, with surprising outcomes revealing what patriotism can mean. *Patriots of Foxboro* is a thought-provoking and romantic story.

Jay Carp

Engineering, Jay Carp joined GTE (General Telephone & Electronics) where he worked for over thirty years as a civilian in military electronics. His career took him from Thule, Greenland, where he worked on the Ballistic Missile Early Warning System (BMEWS) back to the United States to develop a radar system for use in Viet Nam to locate enemy mortar and artillery shells. He spent another twenty years working on the development of InterContinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBM), including the Minuteman missiles, MX, Peacemaker and Rail Garrison missile systems. During his career, his concerns have always been about the youth of our country and the problems handed to them by their elders.

Peter D. Jacobson, *False Hope: Bone Marrow Transplantation for Breast Cancer*

In the late 1980s, a promising new treatment for breast cancer emerged: high-dose chemotherapy with autologous bone marrow transplantation or HDC/ABMT. By the 1990s, it had burst upon the oncology scene and disseminated rapidly before having been carefully evaluated. By the time published studies showed that the procedure was ineffective, more than 30,000 women had received the treatment, shortening their lives and adding to their suffering. This book tells of the rise and demise of HDC/ABMT for metastatic and early stage breast cancer, and fully explores the story's implications, which go well beyond the immediate procedure, and beyond breast cancer, to how we in the United States evaluate other medical procedures, especially life-saving ones.

Peter D. Jacobson

Peter D. Jacobson, JD, MPH, is professor of Health Law and Policy, and director of the Center for Law, Ethics, and Health, at the University of Michigan School of Public Health. He teaches courses on health law, public health law, and health care regulations. Before coming to the University of Michigan, Jacobson was a senior behavioral scientist at the RAND Corporation in Santa Monica, California.

Danielle McGuire, *At the Dark End of the Street*

Rosa Parks was often described as a sweet and reticent elderly woman whose tired feet caused her to defy segregation on Montgomery's city buses, and whose supposedly solitary, spontaneous act sparked the 1955 bus boycott that gave birth to the civil rights movement. The truth of who Rosa Parks was and what really lay beneath the 1955 boycott is far different from anything previously written. In this groundbreaking and important book, Danielle McGuire writes about the rape in 1944 of a twenty-four-year-old mother and sharecropper, Recy Taylor, who strolled toward home after an evening of singing and praying at the Rock Hill Holiness Church in Abbeville, Alabama. Her name was Rosa Parks. In taking on this case, Parks launched a movement that ultimately changed the world.

Danielle McGuire

Danielle McGuire is a writer and assistant professor in the history department at Wayne State University in Detroit. Her dissertation on sexualized racial violence and the African American freedom struggle received the 2008 Lerner Scott Prize for best dissertation in women's history. It was also the runner up for the Allen Nevins Prize, offered annually by the Society of American Historians for best-written dissertation on an American subject. McGuire is a Distinguished Lecturer for the Organization of American Historians. She lives with her husband and two children in metro Detroit.

David Erik Nelson, *Snip, Burn, Solder, Shred: The $10 Electric Guitar and 23 Dirt-Cheap DIY Diversions*

Snip, Burn, Solder, Shred is packed with fun craft and toy-making projects for geeks on a budget. Inside, you'll find illustrated instructions for 24 quirky playthings. Part I: Kid Stuff contains child-friendly projects like the Lock-N-Latch Treasure Chest and a PVC TeePee; Part II: The Electro-Skiffle Band is devoted to homemade musical instruments; and Part III: The Locomotivated showcases moving toys, like a muzzleloader that shoots marshmallows and a steam-powered milk-carton boat. Each project costs just $10 or less to make and is suitable for anyone, regardless of experience level. As you build, you'll learn useful sewing and carpentry skills, and the appendix offers a primer on electronics and soldering.

David Erik Nelson

David Erik Nelson is a freelance writer and former high school teacher. He developed the projects in *Snip, Burn, Solder, Shred* at an alternative school, with plenty of feedback from his students. His fiction has been nominated for a Nebula award, and has appeared in *Asimov's, The Best of Lady Churchill's Rosebud Wristlet*, and the forthcoming *SteampReloaded* anthology. Nelson is a co-creator and frequent contributor to *Poor Mojo's Giant Squid*, now in its 10th year of weekly publication.

Mitchell Rycus, *The Noble Profession of Leaf Chasing*

In the late nineteenth century Austro-Hungarian Empire, two Jewish astronomy professors work tirelessly to unearth new academic research for their chosen field. But their participation in adultery, deception, and murder will follow them throughout time, weaving a complicated web into future generations, and setting the stage for the age-old question, "Are the sins of the fathers visited upon the sons?" Years later, the professors' families having immigrated to Cleveland, Ohio, the old axiom comes to a strange and chilling climax.

Mitchell Rycus

Mitchell J. Rycus is an emeritus professor of urban planning. His career has run the gamut from aerospace engineering to academia. Rycus lives in Ann Arbor where he continues to write and work. He is the author of the novel, *Rub Up: Musings of a Navy Corpsman*.

David Schoem, *College Knowledge for the Jewish Student*

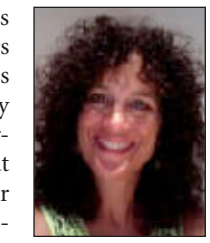
College Knowledge for the Jewish Student is the perfect guide for students heading off to college with high expectations for learning, academic success, personal growth, and independence. Through lively tips and compelling student stories about life at college, it offers thoughtful, practical information for every Jewish student who wants to make a successful transition. The book includes tips on the academic aspects of college life, like communicating with faculty, learning what is where on campus, where to go for help with coursework, how to manage one's time for a balanced experience, etc. In addition, it offers advice on dealing with family, finances, health, and safety, as well as the many social and emotional aspects of this important rite of passage.

David Schoem

David Schoem is director of the Michigan Community Scholars Program and a faculty member in sociology and Judaic Studies at the University of Michigan. He is an expert and teacher on undergraduate education, intergroup relations, and the American Jewish Community. Schoem holds degrees from UC Berkeley, Harvard U. and the U-M. *College Knowledge for the Jewish Student: 101 Tips* is his eighth book.

Caryn Shapiro, *From Scratch: Contemporary and Traditional Jewish Cooking*

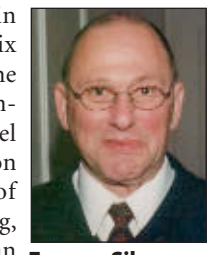
From Scratch was conceived when Caryn Shapiro's daughter requested her mom make her a cookbook of all her favorite recipes. Her world travels and adventurous palate have led her to create a kosher cookbook of favorite foods, including Indian, Mexican and Moroccan dishes. *From Scratch* contains 248 traditional and contemporary Jewish recipes ranging from appetizers to her signature cookies and desserts. The majority of the recipes are vegetarian, with 23 recipes that include meat, poultry or fish. Shapiro especially enjoys cooking for her family and friends, and entertaining for Shabbat and *chaggim*. Shapiro is a speech and language pathologist with the Ann Arbor Public Schools, and a reflexologist. She lives in Ann Arbor.



Caryn Shapiro

Eugene Silverman, *Crime and Punishment and Other Tall Tales*

In Crime and Management, and Other Tall Tales, Carmine Cacciaguida gets a toy car for his fifth birthday. He checks his father's car to see if it works the same way and discovers a dead body in the trunk. Years later, he becomes boss of his father's gang but hates the violence. He and his daughter Claire devise a way to manage violent crime, similar to the way HMOs manage health care. Constituents pay insurance, the proceeds of which go to the criminals to ensure that they don't commit crimes. Victims of crime are reimbursed from this collected money reducing what the criminals get. So the criminals have no incentive to commit crimes. The story traces Carmine's idea from its birth to implementation through deals with politicians and the contentious but humorous heads of the twelve major crime families in New York City. The six other tall tales reflect the quests for emotional intimacy of a dying Nobel laureate, a reluctant Don Juan, and the point of view of a surprised frog, an icon and a teapot, an artist who takes liberties with a statue, and a politician's wife.

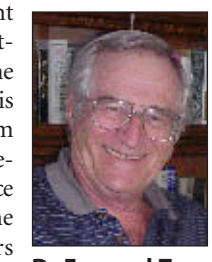


Eugene Silverman

Eugene M. Silverman, MD, grew up in Brooklyn, where he learned the importance of Italian and Jewish family ties. At the University of Michigan, he worked with pathologists from competing hospitals to form a network to deliver laboratory services to HMOs in Michigan. He lives with his wife, Alida, in Ann Arbor.

Emanuel Tanay, *American Legal Injustice*

Forensic psychiatrist Emanuel Tanay has testified in thousands of court cases as an expert witness. Tanay provides a behind-the-scenes view of our criminal justice system and clear examples of the rampant injustice that he has witnessed. He argues that the potential for injustice is built into our legal system in the form of incompetent lawyers, the imbalance of resources between the pricey defense lawyers hired by large corporations in civil trials and the inexperienced lawyers often hired by plaintiffs, and the political concerns of elected judges and prosecutors.



Dr. Emanuel Tanay

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Photography exhibit at U-M examines Jewish photographers and NYC's Lower East Side

Kim Reick Kunoff, special to the WJN

From November 12 through December 17, 2010, an exhibit of some 40 photographs spanning the late 19th-century through contemporary times will offer unexpected insights into the iconic New York City immigrant neighborhood of the Lower East Side. Curated by Sara Blair, professor of English, with support from the Frankel Institute for Advanced Judaic Studies and the Institute for the Humanities, "The View from Below: Photography, Innovation, & the Lower East Side" seeks to rethink the relationship between Jewish Americans and photography's histories. An opening reception will be held on Thursday, November 18, from 4–6pm.

COURTESY OF: INTERNATIONAL CENTER OF PHOTOGRAPHY, NEW YORK

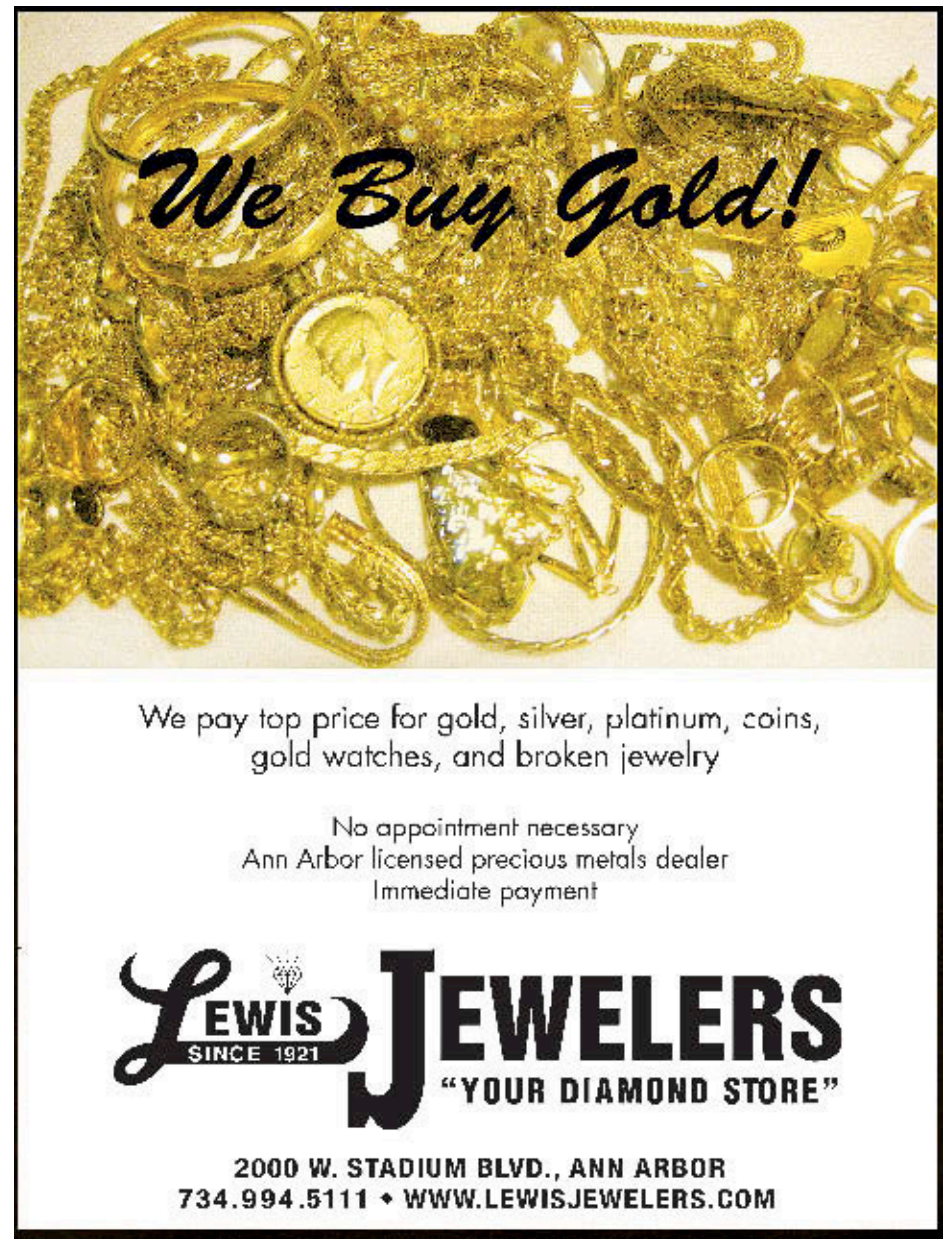
Leon Levinstein. *Lower East Side*, 1969. Gelatin silver print

"Bringing such foundational photographers as Jacob Riis, Alfred Stieglitz, and Walker Evans into dialogue with a host of later photographers," writes Blair, "the exhibit will be divided into thematic units that allow viewers to consider how the Lower East Side has served as a site of engagement, enabling photographers of varying identities and affinities to explore questions of permanence and change, mobility and arrest, loss and transformation, memory and futurity."

In particular, the show aims to redirect thinking about the rich historical relationship between Jews and photography by emphasizing the power of the Lower East Side, and its long iconography, as a resource for pioneering photographic work.

In addition to offering an opportunity to view landmark images and challenging contemporary work, "The View from Below" makes possible a new understanding of the mutual mediation of Jewish-American experience and photographic practice.

The exhibit will be held in the gallery of the Institute for the Humanities, 202 South Thayer Street, in Ann Arbor. Call 615.8503 or email kunoff@umich.edu for more information.



Henry Greenspan to teach annual seminar at United States Holocaust Memorial Holocaust Museum

WJN staff writers

Henry ("Hank") Greenspan, who teaches in the University of Michigan's Residential College, will co-lead a week-long seminar in January at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC. The topic will be using Holocaust survivor and bystander testimony in university courses.

The Hess Seminar for Professors of Holocaust Courses is offered once-yearly to college and university instructors across the United States and internationally. Greenspan will be co-teaching the 2011 seminar with Dr. Wendy Lower, a historian at the Ludwig Maximilian University in Munich.

Greenspan, a psychologist and playwright, has been teaching and writing about Holocaust survivors and their testimony for more than 30 years. His most recent book, from which the seminar will draw, is the second and enlarged edition of *On Listening to Holocaust Survivors: Beyond Testimony*. John Roth, a presidential appointee to the first United States Holocaust Memorial Council, describes Greenspan's new book as "stunningly brilliant; standard-setting for scholarship in the field."

Local Authors, from previous page

Emanuel Tanay, MD, is clinical professor of psychiatry at Wayne State University and a distinguished fellow of both the American Psychiatric Association and the American Academy of Forensic Sciences. He has provided forensic psychiatric expert testimony for more than 50 years.

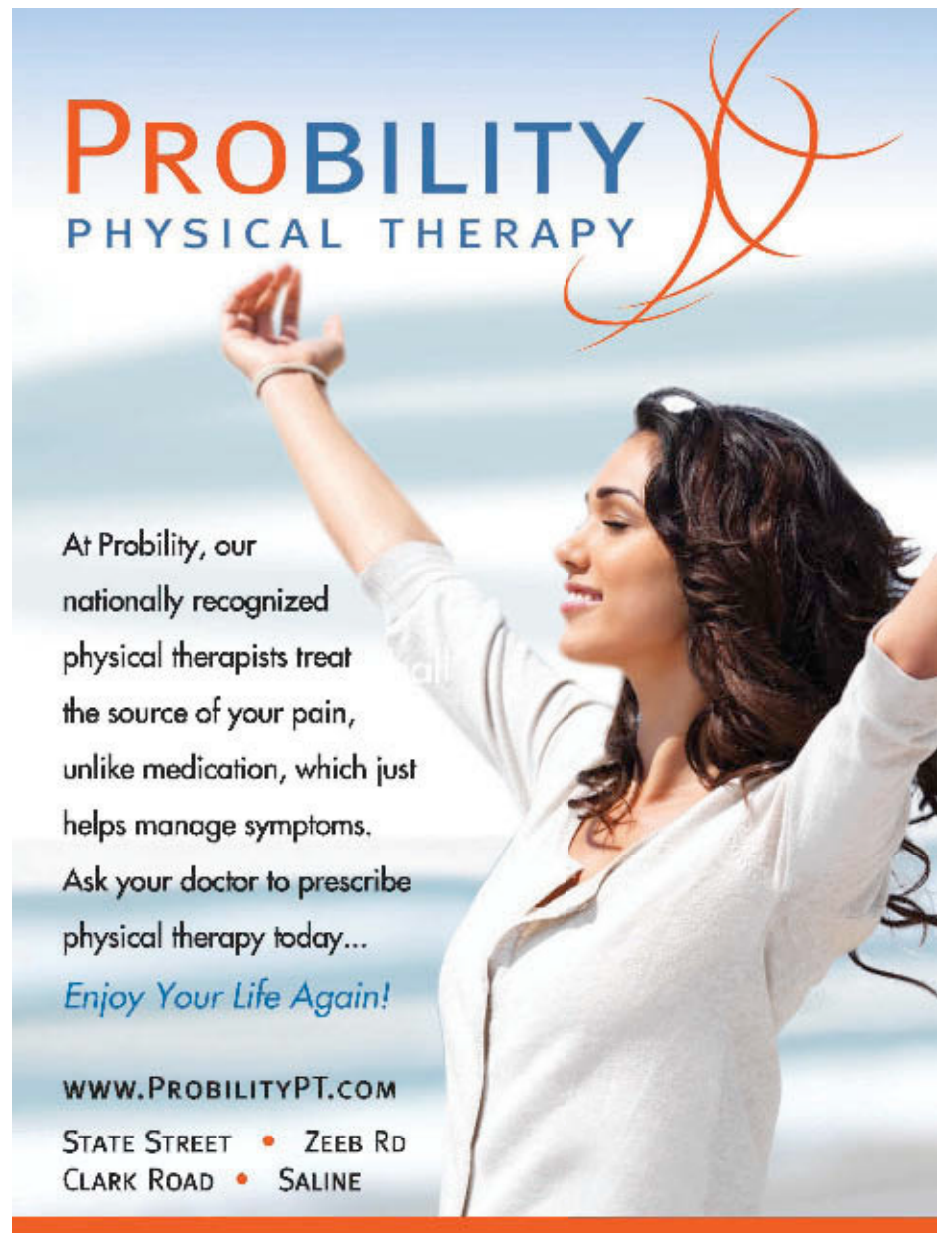
Joan Zald, Portraits of Creative Aging

The centerpiece of *Portraits of Creative Aging* is a collection of 37 first person narratives, with accompanying black and white photographs, of men and women in their retirement years who are engaged in creative and productive endeavors. The book grew out of the author's personal search for positive role models of aging in response to the dated, but persisting, negative stereotypes of aging in society. The thirty-seven men and women ranged in age from sixty to ninety-five at the time they were interviewed. They are from different racial and ethnic groups as well as from six geographic areas.

Joan Zald

Joan Kadri Zald is a retired social worker with B.A. and M.S.W degrees from the University of Michigan. Her published work and numerous gallery exhibits documenting social issues and problems reflect the synthesis of her social work background, photography and writing skills. A native of New York City, Zald and her husband are long-term residents of Ann Arbor.

The Local Authorís Luncheon is free and opened to the community. For more information about the event or other Jewish Book Festival functions, contact Mimi Weisberg at 971-0990 or email mimiweisberg@jccfed.org.



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Jewish Communal Leadership Program inaugural semester

Karla Goldman, special to the WJN

The newly inaugurated Jewish Communal Leadership Program (JCLP), a collaborative effort between the University of Michigan School of Social Work and the Frankel Center for Judaic Studies, combines academic study in social work and Judaic studies with hands-on engagement in contemporary communal challenges. This September, Ann Arbor Jewish leaders were introduced to JCLP's first student cohort during two events held at the School of Social Work.

JCLP students (l to r) Ilana Schuman-Stoler, Sara Shvartzman, Ariel Pearl-Jacobvitz, Liz Kohn, Talya Gates-Monasch, Joshua Kanter with friend of the program Bill Berman (center)

On September 2, 25 professional and lay leaders of Ann Arbor's Jewish community attended a welcome breakfast for the new students, where they engaged in conversations focused on current Jewish communal challenges. On September 28, during Sukkot, JCLP students welcomed community members to an open house at the School of Social Work's very first sukkah, erected in the school's courtyard.

JCLP sukkah in School of Social Work courtyard

Arriving in Ann Arbor from Colorado, California, Chicago, Washington DC, and the Detroit area, the Jewish Communal Leadership Program students are a dynamic and energetic group eager to take full advantage of the opportunities offered by the local Jewish community. In addition to immersing themselves in their studies, the JCLP students have already made an impact, participating and volunteering at numerous community events. The students are also serving as non-voting members of the boards of local Jewish organizations, including the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor and the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor.

The Jewish Communal Leadership Program builds upon the legacies established by the earlier University of Michigan programs in Jewish service and leadership, Project STaR and the Sol Drachler Program in Jewish Communal Leadership. The new program continues the tradition of establishing the University of Michigan as a central site for the cultivation of Jewish leadership and for thinking about the challenges confronting today's Jewish communities. Future JCLP programming will allow the Ann Arbor Jewish community to join the students in engaging with each other and with national thought-leaders as they consider the issues and concerns defining today and tomorrow's American and global Jewish communities. ■

EMU students gather in the sukkah

Ethan Lube, special to the WJN

On Friday, September 24, Jewish and non-Jewish Eastern Michigan University students celebrated the Jewish fall harvest holiday of Sukkot at Hillel at EMU. The event was a holiday celebration, but the interaction within the sukkah went beyond the commemoration of the harvest, and progressed into meaningful dialog, and a true appreciation of Jewish life.

EMU Hillel students in their sukkah

The students at EMU, like Jews everywhere, find great joy in living out the childhood fantasy of making a backyard fort. Jewish tradition includes "dwelling" in the sukkah for the duration of the holiday, and Hillel at EMU students observed this tradition by eating a delicious vegetarian fall harvest meal in the sukkah. If the weather permits, as it did this year, many Jews sleep in the sukkah for the duration of the holiday. Although this suggestion was posed to my fellow Hillel students, they were not too keen on sleeping outside for an entire week. Unlike our pilgrimage driven ancestors, college students are unwilling to forgo modern amenities like indoor plumbing, heat, and soft beds, for the experience of sleeping outdoors like hobos. We were, however, very conscious of Sukkot's commemoration of our history of being homeless and wandering through the Egyptian desert, which is very much the point of the holiday.

Beyond building a really cool backyard hut, the *Arba Minim* or Four Species is one of the most interesting traditions of Sukkot. The four species, referred to collectively as the Lulav, have many interpretations, but the one that I found most meaningful on September 24 is that it represents different varieties of Jews.

As I sat inside the sukkah, I thought deeply about this and the fact that Hillel at EMU itself represents many varying types of Jews. In the sukkah that evening were Jews like myself, who never celebrated a bar mitzvah and are only now rediscovering their Jewish identities, as well as Jews who are very observant and knowledgeable about our religion. There was a young woman who had served in the Israeli military, another who had completed an advanced degree in genocide. There were young men focused on sports and others who would be more apt to build their own computers. Our views ranged from liberal to conservative, from bookworm to athlete, religious to non-practicing. Yet on that Friday night, we found ourselves celebrating our many differences, while united by our similarities.

As we became comfortable with each other the topic of conversation turned to genocide, war, and the Israeli/Palestinian conflict. We found that despite our widely varying ideas and opinions, our conversation, while somewhat heated, was civil and productive. It made me think that if we could have a respectful dialogue about these difficult issues, perhaps the leaders of Israel and Palestine could do so, too, and find a peaceful end to the cycle of violence that continues to plague our two peoples.

We realized that the evening had progressed so late into the night that it was already the next morning. Not being prepared to actually sleep in the sukkah, our shared experience finally had to end. However, the memories of that evening will last well into the coming year, and perhaps even longer. I know that I ate some of the best vegetarian food I've had in a long time, and personally speaking, this was the best night of my Sukkot holiday. ■

November SPICE* of Life

***Social, Physical, Intellectual, Cultural, and Educational Programs for Adults**

Merrill Poliner, special to the WJN

Tuesdays

11 a.m.: Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar. $4 per session, or 3 sessions for $10.
Noon: Homemade Dairy Lunch Buffet. $3 per person.
1 p.m.: Games and Activities. Join in for a variety of games and activities including mahjong, quilting, art projects, and other card games.
1 p.m.: Wii sports including bowling, tennis, golf and baseball. No sports or computer experience necessary.
1:30 p.m.: Yidish Tish (Yiddish Conversational Group). Open to the public as well as University of Michigan faculty, staff and students, all ages and levels welcome. Beanster's Café, ground floor, Michigan League. Free. For more information, call 936-2367.

Wednesdays

November 17
Afternoon Delights Concert sponsored by the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra featuring pianist Stephanie Weaver. Dessert at 1 p.m., concert begins at 1:30 p.m. Tickets are $8 at the door.

Thursdays

10 a.m.: Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar. $4 per session, or 3 sessions for $10.
11 a.m.: Current Events with Heather Dombey. A discussion of this week's news. Bring items of interest for group discussion.
Noon: Homemade Dairy Lunch Buffet. $3 per person.
1 p.m.: Thursday Special Events and Presentations (see below for details).
2:15 p.m.: Literary Group facilitated by Sidney Warschausky, Call Merrill Poliner, 971-0990, for more information and the current book.

Fridays

1:30 p.m.: Yiddish Reading Group at the Jewish Community Center. Call Ray Juni for additional information at 761-2765.

Special events

Tuesday, November 2
Noon: Jewish Book Festival Lunch and Learn presentation. Come to the JCC for lunch and to hear author Marilyn Berger discuss her book *This is a Soul: The Biography of Rich Hodes*.

Thursday, November 4
12:30 p.m.: Birthday celebration for all with November birthdays! Bring your family and friends for lunch and birthday cake.
1 p.m. : Laura Dunbar, Education and Outreach Director of the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra will discuss the upcoming "Strings on Fire" concert.

Tuesday, November 9
Noon: Jewish Book Festival Lunch and Learn presentation. Come to the JCC for lunch and to hear author Michael Hirsch discuss his book, *The Liberators*.

Thursday, November 11
Jewish Book Festival Lunch and Learn presentation. Come to the JCC for lunch and to hear author Jonathan Schneer discuss his book *The Balfour Declaration*.

Wednesday, November 17
Afternoon Delights concerts sponsored by the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra and the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor presents pianist **Stephanie Weaver.** Door Open at 12:50 p.m.; dessert served at 1 p.m.; concert begins at 1:30 p.m. Tickets are $8 at the door.

Thursday, November 18
12:30 p.m.: Meet the Social Worker. Allison Pollock, JFS geriatric social worker, will be available for discussion, questions and assistance.
1 p.m.: Join SPICE for a travelogue around the United States.

November 25
The JCC is closed for Thanksgiving.

Dr. Tanay to lead discussion on hate and genocide

Larry Kuperman, special to the WJN

On November 21, the Jewish Cultural Society of Ann Arbor will host Dr. Emanuel Tanay as part of its on-going program of adult education. Dr. Tanay is a Holocaust survivor, noted author and forensic psychiatrist. He will present a lecture on the "Psychology of Hate and Genocide." Drawing from both his personal experience in Poland during World War II, and his years of study, the discussion will focus on why genocide happens.

The program will take place from 10 a.m.–noon at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor. Admission is free and all are welcome to attend.

The JCC Intergenerational Chanukah party is coming

Peretz Hirschbein, special to the WJN

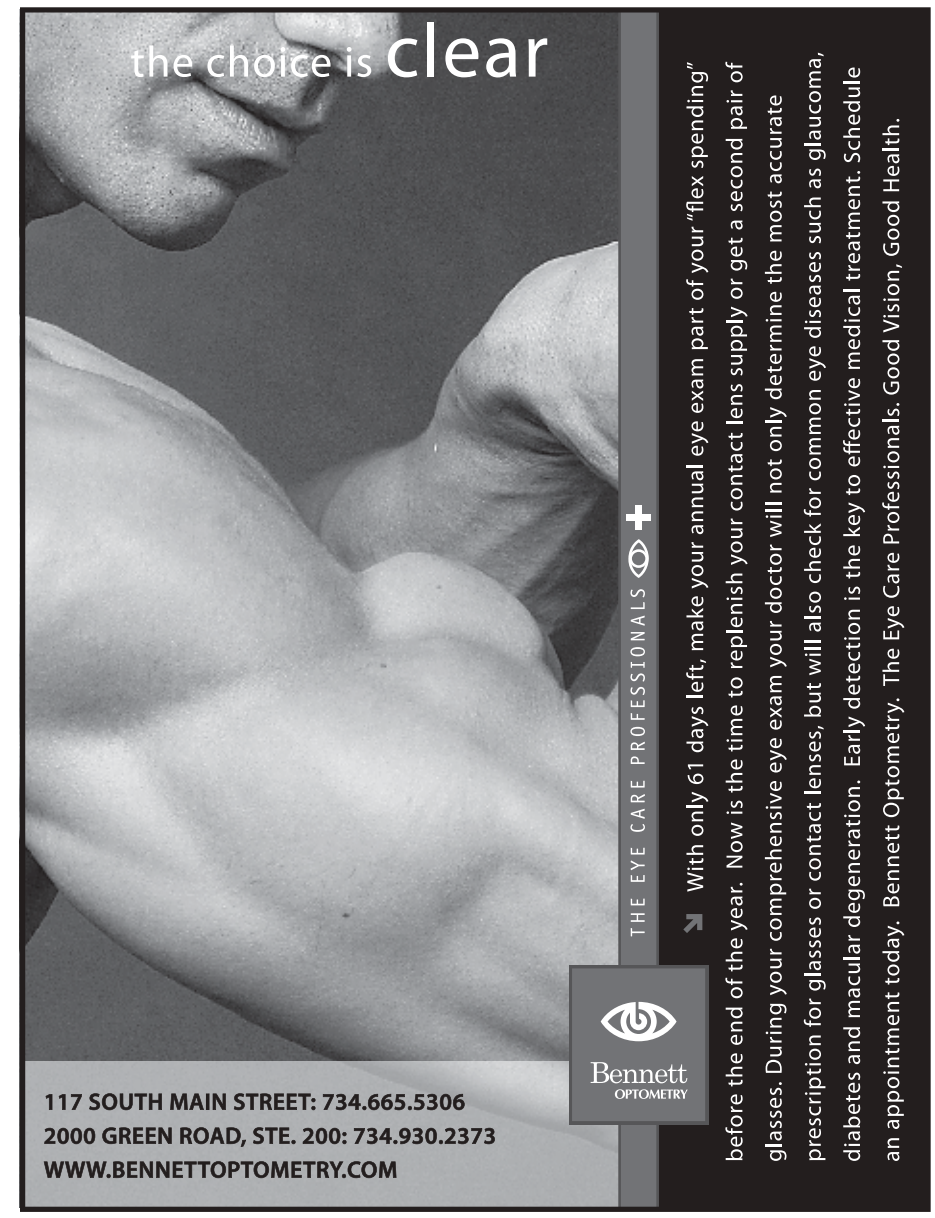
It is November already, which means that Chanukah is right around the corner. The JCC Annual Intergenerational Chanukah party will be held on Tuesday, December 7. The festivities will kick off at 10 a.m. in the Early Childhood Center with Chanukah parties in each classroom. Parents, grandparents, and SPICE participants are invited to visit the classrooms to take part in games, latkes, and more. At 11:30 a.m., the program will move into the JCC lounges for a Chanukah sing-along and dancing, and then guests are invited to join in for more latkes for lunch at noon. For more information, contact the JCC at 971-0990

The Jean & Samuel Frankel Center for Judaic Studies

Tuesday, November 9, 7pm
"The Rescue of Children and Youths at Buchenwald"
Kenneth Waltzer, Michigan State University
202 South Thayer Street, Room 2022

Friday, November 12 – Friday, December 17
"The View From Below: Photography and Innovation on the Lower East Side"
Curated by Sara Blair, University of Michigan
202 South Thayer Street,
Humanities Institute Gallery, First Floor
Hours: Monday – Friday, 9am-5pm

All events are free and open to the public. Call 734.763.9047 or visit **www.lsa.umich.edu/judaic** for details.



Hadassah receives $300,000 toward stem cell research

Gifts support continued Michigan-Israel collaboration to treat ALS

Samantha Friedman, special to the WJN

NEW YORK—In support of continued collaboration researching the use of stem cell technology to treat Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), Detroit philanthropist A. Alfred Taubman has donated $300,000 to Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America. Taubman is known for his ongoing support of stem cell research, and was honored October 5 with the Stem Cell Action Award by the Genetics Policy Institute, during the 2010 World Stem Cell Summit in Detroit last month.

Taubman's gift supports collaborative research between Dr. Benjamin Reubinoff, Director of the Human Embryonic Stem Cell Research Center at Hadassah Medical Center in Jerusalem, and Dr. Eva Feldman, Director of the A. Alfred Taubman Medical Research Institute at the University of Michigan. Since 2009, the two researchers have been working together to study stem cell therapy in the treatment of ALS. Hadassah is a partner in the Taubman Institute-Israel Initiative, which brings together medical researchers at the University of Michigan and in Israel.

With the help of Taubman's gift, the international team will apply the latest embryonic stem cell technology to develop in test tubes human tissue containing the genetic defects for ALS, in order to mimic the conditions in which ALS occurs. The goal is to create human models of ALS on which the doctors can test new treatments.

A. Alfred Taubman and Dr. Eva Feldman

"When I discussed Reubinoff's research with him a few years ago, I was immediately impressed and felt it critical that I do what I could to support his groundbreaking work in stem cell research," Taubman said. "We are fortunate to have a climate in Michigan that welcomes and encourages embryonic stem cell research, and the powerful combination of Reubinoff's and Feldman's medical minds, backed by the prestige of the Hadassah Medical Center and the University of Michigan, has the potential to seriously impact medical history."

The Greater Detroit Chapter of Hadassah has worked on Hadassah's behalf to support medical research at a local level. Its members co-sponsored an event for Reubinoff and Feldman and University of Michigan leaders following Reubinoff's initial visit to Michigan, when he presented the second annual A. Alfred Taubman Lectureship on his work in January 2009.

"Supporting advanced medical research is at the core of Hadassah's mission," said Nancy Falchuk, Hadassah's National President. "Stem cell research has the potential to be at the forefront of medical progress. We are grateful for Mr. Taubman's generous gift facilitating Dr. Reubinoff's and Dr. Feldman's critical work in this field."

Alfred Taubman, founder of real estate development company Taubman Centers, founded the Taubman Institute at the University of Michigan in 2007, with a gift of $22 million. The funds are part of more than $60 million Taubman has given to the university. ■

Founded in 1912, Hadassah, the Womenís Zionist Organization of America, is the largest womenís, largest Zionist, and largest Jewish membership organization in the United States. In Israel, it supports medical care and research, education and youth programs, and reforestation and parks projects. In the United States, Hadassah promotes health education, social action and advocacy, volunteerism, Jewish education and research, Young Judaea and connections with Israel. For more information on the organization, its projects and how to become a member, visit www.hadassah.org.

Hadassah resale program

Judy Williams, special to the WJN

An ongoing Hadassah fundraiser is its resale program. Throughout the year, Hadassah collects women's clothing and household items and brings them to area consignment shops. Hadassah members pick up items at donors' homes and give donors a donation slip.

Buy donating clean, current name-brand women's clothing (clothes for any season are accepted at any time) and household items that are clean and in good condition, donors help Hadassah remain a vibrant organization in the community.

To schedule a pickup appointment for women's clothing, contact Laurel Hern at 663-0549. Women's clothing needs to be clean, currently in style and on hangers.

To schedule an appointment for household items, contact Cecy Copeland at 487-4171. Hadassah accepts such items like dishes, glassware, linens, polished metalware and small electrical appliances in working order. (However, no telephones or other electronic devices can be accepted.)

Jewish Women's Circle "Havdalah Café"

Mae Sander, special to the WJN

"Havdalah Café," the November event of the Jewish Women's Circle of Washtenaw County, will include a celebration and a variety of information about the Havdalah ceremony. In connection with the use of aromatic spices for Havdalah, Nanci Jenkins, manager of Spice Merchants in Kerrytown, will discuss historic and culinary information about spices.

The event will begin with the Havdalah ceremony, celebrating the end of Shabbat and the beginning of the new week. Everyone will participate in the ceremony, which includes lighting a multi-wick candle and passing around aromatic spices in a special spice container. Each person inhales the aroma of the spices as part of the experience. Havdalah is one of the most ancient Jewish blessings, according to the Encyclopedia Judaica, and participants will have the opportunity to learn more about the ritual and its history.

Meeting organizers Gail Epstein and Esther Goldstein have several related activities planned. After the ceremony, a selection of spices and materials will be available so that each participant can make her own spice box to take home, as well as learning about the spices from Nanci Jenkins.

"Spice Merchants offers a wide selection of spices, spice blends, and over 100 types of tea," Jenkins explained "I worked with Esther to look up which spices and teas are certified Kosher, and these will be used at the meeting. In my presentation, I'll summarize the history of the spices for making spice boxes, such as cinnamon, cloves, and star anise. Also, I will give some examples of how to use them in cooking, based on cooking classes that I give."

Nanci Jenkins of Spice Merchants

The meeting will take place Saturday evening, November 20, at 8 p.m. at Chabad House. Tea, coffee, and light refreshments will be served, and women will have time to socialize with old and new friends. A donation of $10 is requested.

All interested women are welcome to participate in Jewish Women's Circle activities. Meeting information and registration for each meeting is available via the group's Facebook page (title: Jewish Women's Circle of Washtenaw County). Women of all ages, regardless of affiliation or non-affiliation, are welcome to sign up either through Facebook or by contacting Esther Goldstein at 995-3276 or esther@jewmich.com. ■

Women's League programs and events

Yvonne Wardle, special to the WJN

On Wednesday, November 10, from 4:30–5:30 p.m., Women's League will host a Jewish Parents' Studies, Discussion and Support Group. The focus of the group will be on Jewish parenting, having a Jewish home, the Jewish social life for the whole family, and the connection between the home, the synagogue, and the religious school. This group is for indepth study, discussion, and support for parents of young children, and grade-school children, but also adult children. Grandparents are welcome to attend.

On Sunday, November 14, from 9:30 a.m.–noon, Women's League will host The Beth Israel Cafe. Come socialize and spend time with old friends and have the opportunity to make new ones. A hospitality table will offer a selection of foods to choose from, including fruit to dip into a chocolate fondue pot and gourmet coffee, hot chocolate, water and/or juices at the beverage station. There will be a children's area with crafts, coloring pages, books, and games. For adults, there will be books, newspapers, crossword puzzles Wi-Fi, and more. For those wanting to find Jewish resources for themselves or anyone in their family, educational materials are available for all ages, from babies through adult, from beginner to advanced levels of study. A mahjong introduction program will be offered, starting at 10 a.m.

On Sunday, November 21, from 5–6:30 p.m., there will be the annual Chanukah-Mania Sale, at the Beth Israel Gift Shop.

On Sunday, November 21, from 6:30 p.m., Women's League will host a Women's League Auction and Dinner Event. This program is the Women's Leagues' annual fundraiser and includes a raffle, a kosher spaghetti dinner, and an auction. Come dine, socialize and get a paddle, to bid for prizes. This event is by pre-registration only, and there are limited tickets available.

Beth Israel Women's League is seeking donations from businesses, crafters and artisans for the auction. Products, gift certificates and gift basket donations would be appreciated. All businesses and individuals that donate an item will be listed in the auction program book and on the event poster, and will be announced during the auction event. ■

All of these events will take place at Beth Israel Congregation. Members and non-members are invited to attend and are open to both men and women. For more information or to RSVP, contact Yvonne Wardle at fulloflife01@live.com or 945-8256.

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The Jewish calendar

Rabbi Robert Dobrusin, special to the WJN

This is the second in a series discussing frequently asked questions concerning Jewish tradition.

There are many questions concerning Jewish practice and tradition that require either a leap of faith or significant philosophical analysis to fully understand. But there are many complicated questions concerning Jewish life which can be understood with some historical background, logical thinking and patience.

One such question has to do with the Jewish calendar. Rabbis are frequently asked about how our calendar works, and the most common question seems to be: "Why did the holidays come so early this year and why do they come so much later next year?"

If you have wondered about these questions, sit down and relax, pour yourself a nice cup of tea and take a deep breath. It is a bit complicated but I will take it one step at a time, leave out the details which will just confuse the issue and hopefully solve the mystery of the Jewish calendar, which isn't really so mysterious after all.

The Jewish calendar is based on the lunar month. The moon takes about 29-and-a-half days to orbit the earth. Thus, the basic Hebrew year consists of 12 months: 6 months of 29 days and 6 months of 30 days, giving us a total of 354 days.

Originally, the beginning of a month (Rosh Hodesh) was declared when the new moon was sighted; but for at least 1,500 years, the dates of the new moon have been projected and the calendar has become a fixed document. (If you go to the website hebcal.com, you can find any Hebrew date for the next 7,000 years.) While the beginning of each month corresponds with the general time of the New Moon, the date is no longer dependent upon anyone actually sighting the New Moon. The change was made necessary for many reasons, most notably the fact that as Jewish communities spread throughout a greater area of the world, it became impractical to wait for the news of the sighting of the New Moon and the fixed calendar became a necessity.

The lunar year is 11 days shorter than the solar year (354 vs. 365). Therefore, the months and the holidays they contain should come 11 days earlier each year relative to the seasons. This would present a problem as Pesach would eventually come in fall and Sukkot in spring, undermining the connection of the holidays with the agricultural year. In order to prevent this from taking place, an additional month is added in the early spring (an additional month of Adar) to keep the lunar calendar from losing its connection with the solar seasons.

Originally, this adjustment was made on an ad hoc basis. The Talmud records that rabbis ordered an additional month to be added when they saw that the spring would not arrive in time for Pesach. The decision to add the extra month moved Pesach four weeks ahead.

When the fixed calendar became a reality, the decision was made to have a "leap month" added seven times in a 19-year cycle.

To understand how this figure was calculated, you need a bit of math. Over the course of 19 lunar years, we lose 11 days each year relative to the seasons and that totals 209 days. If, however, you add seven months of 30 days into the calendar over the span of 19 years, we make up those days and the Jewish and solar calendars come back into alignment. (I know seven times 30 is 210, don't worry about it. You'll see why in a couple of paragraphs.)

By spacing these seven leap years over a 19-year cycle, we insure that the holidays will always fall in a range of roughly four or five weeks, never coming "too early" or "too late".

And, as an additional bonus, the 19 year cycle means that on your 19th (and 38th and 57th, etc.) birthday, you'll celebrate your solar and Hebrew birthdays on the same day or one day earlier depending upon whether there is a solar leap year that year.

If you go to the website hebcal.com, you can find any Hebrew date for the next 7,000 years.

One last point needs to be made at the risk of complicating the issue further. The calendar not only needs to be correct relating to the seasons, but it has to serve our ritual purposes as well. Our rabbis did not want us to observe Yom Kippur either on Friday or Sunday as it would impact our observance of Shabbat. In addition, they did not want Hoshana Rabbah, the last day of Sukkot, to fall on Shabbat as that would make it impossible to perform the traditional processions of that day. In order to insure that these inconveniences do not happen, an extra day is occasionally added to or taken away from one of the months of the year. This, too, is built into the calendar in a fixed way with the result being that some years are one day longer or shorter than others and this is also factored into the 19-year cycle.

There are some more interesting facts concerning the calendar, but I'll add only one more point. We are used to thinking of Tishre, the month of Rosh Hashana, as the "first month" of the year. However, the Torah calls Nisan, the month of Passover, the "first month." This reflects the Torah's concept of a calendar reflecting the history of our people.

The first commandment directed specifically at the people of Israel was the commandment to make the month of Nisan, the month of Passover, the first of all the months. The verse from Exodus reads: "This month should be the first of all the months for you." A midrash says that these words "for you" imply that God handed over the responsibility for the calendar "to us" and a Midrash assured us that God would wait to hear from the Jewish people as to when the holidays would take place and would defer to our decision on their timing. This reflects a bit of *hutzpah* on the part of the rabbis, but is necessary in order to unite the community and keep the calendar functioning properly.

The calendar is a marvelous document that balances our understanding of the cycles of time, our awareness of the necessities of our religious observance and our celebration of our role as human beings in determining the steps which will help make our tradition as meaningful as possible. ■

New JLI course provides Jewish guidance for medical decision-making

WJN staff writers

This November, the Rohr Jewish Learning Institute (JLI) will launch its fall course, Medicine and Morals: Your Jewish Guide Through Life's Tough Decisions. Medicine and Morals is a case-study-based exploration of Jewish medical ethics and a fascinating look at Judaism's approach to 21st century medical dilemmas. Do you have a moral obligation to donate a kidney to a loved one? With today's biotechnology, can a child have more than two parents (and when is the child Jewish)? Is it right to hasten the death of a terminally ill patient in great pain?

2010 Spring JLI class

"At some point in our lives, many of us will have to deal with questions like these," says Rabbi Yehudah Pink, course author. "People want to know what's right what's wrong, and where they can turn for guidance. Jewish wisdom offers some very helpful direction in dealing with these issues, and that's what this course is about."

"Medicine and Morals is more intriguing than any fictional TV show," promises local JLI instructor, Rabbi Aharon Goldstein. "It will prepare students for choices that they or their loved ones may be called upon to make, and it's also a fascinating exposure to little-discussed aspects of Judaism."

Lessons will examine a range of classic Jewish sources, drawing extensively from the Talmud, and from modern commentaries that make Talmudic wisdom relevant to real case studies.

Rabbi Aharon Goldstein of Chabad House will be teaching this course at the JCC and Chabad House for six Tuesdays, starting November 16, and potential students are welcome to call 995-3276 or email to Chabad@Jewmich.com for more information.

Medicine and Morals, like all of JLI's courses, is designed for people at all levels of Jewish knowledge. Participants without any prior experience or background in Jewish learning can attend and enjoy this course. All JLI courses are open to the public, and attendees need not to be a member of any particular synagogue or temple. ■

Abraham begot Isaac

Rabbi Aharon Goldstein, special to the WJN

The Torah portion for Saturday, November 6, is "Toldot". It begins with the words, "These are the generations of Isaac, the son of Abraham: Abraham begot Isaac." The Talmud tells us one of the reasons for the repetition of this verse is to emphasize the fact that, according to natural law, Abraham was unable to father children at his age. When Sara conceived and gave birth to a son at the age of 90, the nations of the world laughed, suggesting that Abraham was not Isaac's father. However, Isaac's facial features were created to look exactly like his father's, thereby proving Abraham's paternity and dispelling any doubts as to Isaac's lineage.

In the spiritual sense, the rest of the world had no difficulty accepting Abraham's ability to beget offspring, that is to say, spreading the belief in One God and promoting good deeds. What they found impossible to believe, however, was that Abraham, by virtue of his faith in a God who transcended natural law, could also overcome his physical limitations and father a child in the physical sense.

The miraculous birth of Isaac demonstrated to the entire world that not only the soul, but the physical body of the Jew as well, exists beyond the confines of nature and is created and directly sustained by God. It is from this perspective that we can understand the words of Rabbi Yosef Yitzchak Schneerson, the previous rebbe, which he spoke before being exiled to the far Eastern provinces of the Soviet Union by the Communist regime for the "crime" of spreading Judaism. Addressing the assembled Chasidim who had come to see him off, the Rebbe declared, "And let all the nations of the world be apprised that it is only our physical bodies that are in exile and subject to the yoke of the nations. Our souls are not in exile and can never be subjugated! No one can exert any influence over us when it comes to matters of Torah, mitzvoth and Jewish practice!"

But what good does it do us to know that our souls are not in exile, if our physical bodies - the only medium through which we can observe mitzvot and spread the wellsprings of Judaism - suffer the hardships of the exile?

The answer to this question goes back to Abraham, the very first Jew. The events of Abraham's life proved that whenever a Jew truly discovers the spiritual, supernatural dimensions of his soul, its Godly light will illuminate his physical being as well. In this way the physical body is elevated above the laws of nature, to a plane on which no power on earth can exert any influence. ■

November programs at TBE

Rabbi Lisa Delson, special to the WJN

Families with Young Children Story Hour

Wednesday, November 3, 10, and 17, 10 a.m.

Temple Beth Emeth's new librarian, Wendy Holden, will be sharing a new story with tots and their care-givers every Wednesday in November, in the TBE Library. Story Hour is a way to meet other families while enjoying Jewish stories. No RSVP needed. For more information, contact Wendy Holden, wendyholden@comcast.net.

Movie Tuesday – Bonjour Monseur Shlomi

Tuesday, November 16, 1–3 p.m.

This month's free day-time movie is *Bonjour Monsieur Shlomi*, an Israeli film about 16 year-old Shlomi, who is brilliant but fails to achieve his potential. Instead, he focuses on caring for his dysfunctional family and new love interest. The principal of the school recognizes Shlomi's academic abilities and urges Shlomi to develop his talents. Join others for this afternoon movie, snacks, and a discussion.

TNT volunteering at Food Gatherers

Monday, November 22, 6–8 p.m.

All Ann Arbor Twenties and Thirties are invited to come do some *tikkun olam* (repairing the world) before Thanksgiving. TBE TNT group and members of the Young Adult Division of Jewish Federation will meet at Food Gatherers (1 Carrot Way, Ann Arbor) to help out in their food pantry for a few hours. There is no charge for volunteering, but feel free to bring some non-perishable food to donate. RSVP by Monday, November 19, to Brett Willner, bwillner@templebethemeth.org, or call 665-4744.

Grief Support Group at TBE

A Grief Support Group, moderated by a trained professional, is forming at Temple Beth Emeth. To join the group, contact Rabbi Lisa Delson at ldelson@templebethemeth.org, or 665-4744.

Jewish Book Festival: Opening night

Monday, November 1, 7:30 p.m.

Temple Beth Emeth will be sponsoring the first night of the Ann Arbor Jewish Book Festival. Joan Nathan, University of Michigan alum and James Beard Award winner, will discuss her book, *Quiches, Kugels and Couscous*, her journey through France discovering French Jewish culture and cooking. This event is free and includes a dessert reception.

Erev Thanksgiving service

Start Thanksgiving weekend at Temple Beth Emeth on Wednesday, November 24, at 7:30 p.m., with the annual joint Thanksgiving Service with St. Clare's Episcopal Church. Rabbi Levy and Reverend Rhodenhiser will lead the service, and the choirs of both congregations will provide the music. There will be a collection that will help Back Door Food Pantry and Friends in Deed charities. An "oneg" and socializing time will follow the service.

TBE November Adult Education

Rabbi Lisa Delson, special to the WJN

TBE offers a wide array of adult education opportunities, from Basic Judaism to book clubs and informal lunch and learn sessions with Rabbi Levy. This year, for the advanced adult learner, TBE will offer a course taught mainly in Hebrew. Ilan Rosenberg, Hebrew language instructor from the University of Michigan, will teach a three-part course on the Akedah, or the binding of Isaac. November also brings the second of the Beit Café Adult Education evenings, offering a selection of four new courses. The community is invited to participate in any of the events listed below. Contact Rabbi Delson, 665-4744, with questions.

Saturday Torah Study with Rabbi Levy

Rabbi Levy offers a Torah study session each Shabbat from 8:50–9:30 a.m. in the TBE chapel. No prior experience in Torah study is necessary. An opportunity for prayer, led by Rabbi Delson, follows from 9:30–10:15 a.m.

Women's Torah Study

Monday, November 1 and 15, 7– 8:30 p.m.

Join the Cantor Annie Rose and other women of Temple Beth Emeth for two evenings a month in the study of the Torah portion for the week using the Women of Reform Judaism's "Women's Torah Commentary." Contact Cantor Rose with questions at cantorannie@gmail.com.

Spirituality Book Club

Tuesday, **November 2, 7:30–9 p.m., and Thursday, November 4, noon–1:30 p.m.**

Once a month, Cantor Rose, offers a Spirituality Book club. There are now both a daytime and evening session. November's book is *The Challenge of the Soul: A Guide for the Spiritual Warrior,* by Rabbi Niles Elliot Goldstein. Participants are welcome to drop in for selected sessions or the entire series through June. Visit the TBE website, www.templebethemeth.org, for the book list for the year.

Akedah Course for Hebrew Readers

Wednesdays, November 3, 10, and 17, 6–7:30 p.m.

Guest teacher, Ilan Rosenberg, will teach a class mainly in Hebrew on the binding of Isaac. Participants will have the opportunity to wrestle with the original text and watch the motif of the story play out in Rabbinic texts and modern Israeli writings. Rosenberg will use multiple interpretations to teach this famous story. This course is open to the greater Ann Arbor Jewish Community for those who read Hebrew, and costs $36 per person.

Men's Torah Study

Wednesday, November 10 , 7:30 p.m.

The Temple Beth Emeth Brotherhood hosts a bi-monthly Torah study for men only. The evening includes lively discussion and refreshments. For more information contact Roger Stutesman at rgstutesman@scbglobal.net.

Beit Café: Adult Education Night

Monday, November 29, 7–9 p.m.

At this month's "Beit Café," Judy Freedman will teach a Taste of Mussar; Rabbi Levy and the participants from the bike trip will share an overview of their experience biking through Israel; Cantor Rose will teach a class on Jewish lullabies; and Liz Fried, visiting scholar from the Frankel Center for Judaic Studies, will teach about the historical background of the biblical story of Joseph. Participants may choose two of the four classes to attend, with refreshments during the break, around 8 p.m. Come for one hour or both to this free event. For more information contact Rabbi Delson at ldelson@templebethemeth.org.

Beth Israel Congregation programs

Elliot Sorkin, special to the WJN

Wednesday Lunch and Learns

November 3, 10, 17, noon–1:15 p.m.

These drop-in sessions are led by Rabbi Robert Dobrusin and./or Rabbi Kim Blumenthal at the Garfunkel-Schteingart Activities Center at 2010 Washtenaw Ave. on the lower level.

Each week a new topic is presented. Participants are asked to bring a dairy lunch, and refreshments and desserts are provided by the congregation. There is no charge for this weekly event. Topics are found at www.bethisrael-aa.org.

Tot Shabbat

November 13 and 27, 11:15 a.m.

Tot Shabbat programs are offered to preschoolers and their parents on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month. Stories, prayers, and songs are a part of the program led by Peretz Hirshbein and Jessica Kander on alternate weeks. The pre-schoolers participate in the congregation Kiddush following Tot Shabbat sitting at their own kid size tables.

Mini Minyan and Kehillat Shabbat

November 13, 11 a.m.

The new Mini Minyan, led by Program Director Jake Kander, and a team of parent volunteers, is offered on the second Saturday morning of each month to children in K–2nd grades. It serves as a bridge between Tot Shabbat which is aimed at preschool children and their parents and Kehillat Shabbat which is intended for 3rd–5th graders. Mini Minyan features many of the same songs and stories enjoyed during Tot Shabbat, while also offering the chance for children to learn and explore many of the Shabbat morning prayers through age appropriate activities.

Kehillat Shabbat offers 1st through 5th graders their own learning service and snacks, which is led by Beth Israel Religious School teacher and University of Michigan student Gabe Pachter.

Friday Night Lights

November 19, 6 p.m. Kabbalat Shabbat Service with Kindergarden and First Grade Consecration; 7 p.m. Shabbat Dinner

This is one of a new series of monthly family friendly Shabbat dinners, followed by a Friday night evening service. The dinner will cost $7 per person, with no charge for children ages 3 and under. Individuals are also welcome to attend. Because of Shabbat, there must be a pre-payment for the dinner, which will confirm the family's or an individual's reservation. The cost is $7 per person, with children 3 and under free.

Monday night Torah lessons

November 15, 8 p.m.

Meeting over coffee and cake on selected Monday evenings, the Monday Night Torah Lessons concentrate on the favorite Torah lessons of instructor Rabbi Robert Dobrusin. In November Rabbi Dobrusin will discuss "Joseph's Revelation to His Brothers: Why did he choose that moment to reveal his identity and what is the message for us today? "

On January 24 he will discuss "Veshamru Benay Yisrael et HaShabbat: "The Children of Israel shall keep the Shabbat". What does it mean to be "*shomray* Shabbat"—to "keep" the Sabbath—and what does Moses' smile have to do with it? On March 7 he will present "A Hidden Message in the Purim Story: Do we have to be free to feel free? When does redemption really come?" On April 4 the topic will be "The Two Most Important Words in the Haggada: What are these two words, and how much meaning could two seemingly ordinary words have?"

Fall Tot Story Time

November 21, 9:30–10:15 a.m.

Youth Librarian Stacey Tessler will read a story and will lead a craft project for parents and tots in the Krickstein Youth Library at Beth Israel Congregation.

Latkepalooza

Sunday, December 5, 5 p.m.

Latkepalooza is a Chanukah celebration extravaganza for all ages. There will be a delicious latke bar for dinner, featuring both traditional potato pancakes as well as more exotic selections. There will be a community candle lighting ceremony, games, crafts and activities. Entertainment will also include musical performances.

General community is always welcome to events

All of Beth Israel's events, plus all educational offerings, are open to the general community, often at no cost. If you would like further information, call 665-9897 or visit www.bethisrael-aa.org. ■

Holocaust Memorial Center anniversary dinner

Robyn L. Gorell, special to the WJN

John J. Loftus

The Holocaust Memorial Center Zekelman Family Campus recently held its 26th Anniversary Dinner at Congregation Shaarey Zedek in Southfield. Guest speaker was author and media commentator, John J. Loftus. A former Federal prosecutor and army intelligence officer, Loftus is the author of seven books, three of which were made into films, two were international best sellers, and one was nominated for the Pulitzer Prize in History. His just published work, *America's Nazi Secret,* is an expose of the U.S. Justice Department's role in hiding Nazi war criminals from Congressional Investigations. Loftus also was the first Irish Catholic president of the Florida Holocaust Museum. The local organization Shaarit Haplaytah (the Surviving Remnant of the Holocaust) was honored at the dinner, which was attended by over 600 people.

Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Havurah activities

Jennifer Cohen, special to the WJN

Monthly Shabbat morning service added

In response to increasing growth and demand, the Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Havurah has added a second monthly Shabbat service to its regular schedule. The service is scheduled for the second Saturday of every month, and features a blend of guitar-supported melodies and traditional *nusach*. Designed to be highly participatory, these services will include time to discuss the Torah parsha in depth.

The next Shabbat morning service takes place on Saturday, November 13, at 10 a.m. at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor. For more information, contact Aura Ahuvia, 975-9045, or Aura613@gmail.com.

Learning services

Monthly Learning Services have resumed at the Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Havurah. Running on the first Saturday of the month through June, these services are geared toward adults and older teenagers. Designed to be actively engaging, intellectually challenging, and personally rewarding, these services feature discussion and activities about the history, culture, language and famous personalities of the siddur, all in terms of how they bear on the structure and content of services as we know them today. No knowledge of Hebrew is necessary, just the desire to learn more in an open, inquisitive setting. The next Learning Service takes place Saturday, November 6, from 10 a.m.–noon at the Jewish Community Center of Washtenaw County. For further information, contact Debbie Field, 332-3487 or dfield@adrian.edu, or Aura Ahuvia, 975-9045, or Aura613@gmail.com.

Lay Leadership Development series

Now in its second year, the Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Havurah's "Opening the Door" series begins again this fall. The group is named "Opening the Door" because it aspires to help people navigate the sometimes scary threshold into more active lay leadership. Lay leadership can be as extensive or as limited as one wishes, spanning the leading of an entire service, to a section of the service, or even to leading a single prayer, story, or insight. All levels of participation are welcome. While knowledge of Hebrew and of specific prayers are helpful, this group is open to everyone, including those who wish to learn and master something as beginners. It is, however, oriented toward learning to lead at Reconstructionist services. To find out about joining this group, contact Paul Resnick, 998-1329 or presnick@umich.edu, or Aura Ahuvia, 975-9045 or Aura613@gmail.com.

Beit Sefer adult learning

Jewish practices around death and burial will be discussed with the oldest group of students in the Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Havurah's Beit Sefer (Sunday School) later this month, in preparation for a visit to Arborcrest Cemetery's Jewish section. The class is also open to Reconstructionist Havurah members. Rabbinic student Aura Ahuvia will teach the class.

The Beit Sefer is a mixed-age series of classrooms, starting with a kindergarten class and going up to the bar/bat mitzvah year. It is held Sunday mornings at the JCC. For further information, contact Aura Ahuvia, 975-9045, or Aura613@gmail.com.

Claudia Kraus Piper holding a Torah

Photographs of support

A dozen women were photographed holding a Torah earlier this year at the Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Havurah, as part of a visual protest being organized world-wide by a group called "Women of the Wall." Based in Israel, Women of the Wall is a group striving to achieve legal recognition of the right of women to wear tallitot, pray out loud and read from the Torah at the Wailing Wall in Jerusalem. The group's website invites Jewish communities world-wide to upload photographs of women holding Torahs in solidarity with the Women of the Wall.

Other activities in support of WOW, as it is known, are taking place throughout Ann Arbor this year. ■

Female scribes finish writing Torah scroll

By Sue Fishkoff

SAN FRANCISCO (JTA)—It took seven years to write and just a few days to sew together, but on October 15 the first Torah scroll written entirely by a group of women was attached to its wooden poles and declared complete.

The ceremony was held at Seattle's Kadima Reconstructionist Community, which sponsored the project.

"We had the idea 10 years ago, but when we looked around for women scribes, we realized there weren't any," said Kadima member Wendy Graff, one of the volunteers who shepherded the project from its inception.

To remedy the dilemma, Kadima supported two women as they trained to be scribes. Four others trained on their own. Ultimately the six female scribes, or *sofrot*, worked on the scroll in four countries: two in Israel, two in the United States, and one each in Brazil and Canada.

The panels were checked by experts in Jerusalem and New York, who made the minor *tikkunim*, or corrections, permitted by Jewish law. Major errors require a complete redo of the page.

Last week the panels were flown to Seattle, where another group of women sewed them together. The Torah mantle, including wooden poles, or *atzei chayim*, and other traditional accoutrements were created by seven local artists.

The scribes were paid, but the others who worked on the project donated their time.

According to Orthodox tradition, women are not permitted to be Torah scribes.

Over the last decade, however, a handful of women have trained as scribes. It's an exacting process. Torahs must be written by hand on parchment made from the skins of kosher animals, and scribes must state their intentions out loud each time they prepare to write God's name.

In September 2007, Jen Taylor Friedman of New York completed the first Torah scroll known to have been written by a woman, for the United Hebrew Congregation of St. Louis, Mo.

Friedman advised the Women's Torah Project and was one of the experts who checked for small errors. She is among a number of women at work on other Torah scrolls, including Julie Seltzer of San Francisco, one of the six scribes on the Seattle project.

Seltzer wrote four of the Seattle Torah's 62 panels in the summer of 2009, when she was living in New York. Since October 2009, she has been writing a Torah scroll at the Contemporary Jewish Museum in San Francisco as part of the yearlong exhibition, "As it is Written: Project 304,805."

> ***To be this close to the text, on the elemental level of the letters, is extraordinary.***
>
> **Julie Seltzer**

Seltzer began the year doing all her writing in public at the museum, so visitors could watch and ask questions. She soon realized, however, that she would never complete the scroll by her December 2010 deadline, so Seltzer writes mainly at home now and spends several days a week at the museum talking to the public.

"Jewish learning and text was my entryway to Jewish practice and spirituality, and continues to be one of the primary ways I connect," Seltzer told JTA, saying she feels honored to be able to write a Torah scroll. "To be this close to the text, on the elemental level of the letters, is extraordinary."

Seltzer says she doesn't feel that her experience writing a Torah is any different from a male scribe. But the fact that her Torah, and the one completed by the Women's Torah Project, was written by women means they will not be accepted for use in Orthodox congregations.

On her website, Hasoferet.com, Friedman tells female scribes they need to be upfront about that when they are commissioned to work on a Torah.

"Why is a *soferet* like a swordfish?" she writes. Swordfish, she says, is not considered kosher by most Orthodox Jews, although Conservative Jews will eat it.

"If I repair a Torah and then let Orthodox congregations use it," she wrote, it's "an appalling desecration of trust. If we want respect, as Jews or as human beings, we have to give respect, and part of that is accepting that other Jews' rule systems are valid despite being different from ours." ■

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Bringing language to life through collaboration and project-based learning

The benefits of Hebrew immersion at Hebrew Day School

Dina Shtull and Carey Sherman, special to the WJN

The Hebrew Day School (HDS) is unique among Ann Arbor's elementary schools for providing a second language program, immersing students in the second language for half of the school day. Hebrew language is fully integrated with the overall academic curriculum, and taught through – drama, music, the arts, and technology. All aspects of language development are explored, including reading, writing, comprehension, listening, and speaking. Students learn both modern and Biblical Hebrew and gain tools for navigating a story book, a Hebrew website, as well as an ancient text. Teacher collaboration across disciplines and project-based learning are an important part of the school's approach to teaching the language.

A recent example of this subject integration was evident in the classrooms during the first weeks of school. Aron Kaufman, the second grade Hebrew teacher, collaborated with Carol Gannon, the technology teacher, on a project that the students could direct themselves. They decided to intertwine the learning of Hebrew language with music and technology. "At HDS we want our students to create their own educational products," explained Kaufman. During Sukkot, the second graders not only ate and said blessings in the sukkah, they also wrote their own Hebrew music raps about the holiday. As part of their lessons in technology, the students learned how to use a computer program for creating unique blends

Yael Atzmon and Niv Fisher-Pinsker recording

of musical sounds. They learned how to identify music patterns and how to loop the music. They then wrote the words to their original sukkah Hebrew raps.

Kaufman began by learning the computer music program so that he could teach it to the children. He attended sessions at the Apple Center which are offered to teachers for professional development. He then wrote his own rap and performed it for the students, modeling the task of the assignment. Fifth graders were engaged to help teach the second graders. "The teaching of younger children is part of their development as leaders and mentors at the school," said Carol Gannon who also teaches the fifth graders. "Teaching others is an effective way of reinforcing their own understanding, and learning how to be patient and creative," added Gannon.

In the school's computer lab, the children listened to different raps. They mixed hip hop music and chose the tempo for their own song. They then added their own lyrics. When the raps were all done, the students recorded their songs. "We liked picking out the music," said Yael Atzmon who wrote her rap together with Niv Fisher-Pinsker. "I liked this activity because we got to put our Hebrew songs on real CDs," says second grader Zachary Newpol. "I loved recording," said Samuel Bechar. It was very quiet and there weren't any distractions."

Aron Kaufman described his overall goal of the Hebrew rap project: "I wanted the kids to experience the joy of the holiday at the deepest level with singing and connecting to the concepts and the language. Granted, we first had to gain some rhythm awareness by practicing marches in response to different tempos; but once the students were aligned with the rhythm, they sang out their sukkah raps with great pride. Our sukkah raps in Hebrew are a bold statement of what we are doing here at HDS, a precious oasis of Jewish learning," Kaufman added.

Educational and linguistic experts have long promoted the cognitive and cultural benefits of learning a second language in the early elementary years. Foreign language study enhances a child's cognitive development and has been shown to positively impact on achievement and test scores in other disciplines, including reading and math. Children develop a sensitivity to language which helps them see their first language in a comparative perspective and helps them analyze and refine their own language use (Cazabon, Lambert, & Heise-Baigorria, 2002). Students in dual language programs also develop very positive attitudes about students of other language and cultural backgrounds, and positive attitudes toward themselves as learners (see www.alliance.brown.edu/pubs).

"We are very aware that learning a second language is academically essential for our 21st century students," said Gannon. "Hebrew is important as Israel has the second most number of companies outside North America on the NASDAQ and there is a demand for Hebrew speakers in high-tech, international relations, and marketing," she pointed out. "When we use Hebrew websites and view Hebrew from the internet on our SMART Board, we are helping the children tune in to the importance of knowing Hebrew not only to connect to their honored heritage, but also as a tool for global communication."

Tours and school open houses for prospective parents are scheduled for Tuesday, November 9, at 9 a.m. and Monday, December 13, at 7 p.m. Private tours can also be arranged by calling 971-4633. ■

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:
David Kersch, 734 214.3796
Stephen Anderson, 734 214.5897
Charlie Chapell, 734 214.2728
Ramona Meadows, 734 944.3981
Denise McPherson-Pratt, 734 214.3733
Betsy Cavanaugh, 734 214.3740

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JCC youth activities

Deborah Huerta, special to the WJN

School's Out Day Programs

The Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor will offer three School's Out/JCC's In Days this November. On days when Hebrew Day School or Ann Arbor Public Schools are closed but the JCC is open, the JCC Youth Department offers full day School's Out programs featuring field trips or special activities. These programs are for JCC members only in grades K–5. Middle school students are also welcome to participate as helpers for a reduced fee.

On Tuesday, November 2, a School's Out program will be offered for AAPS and other students. Activities will include a field trip to the ScrapBox and a chance to make patriotic desserts in honor of Election Day. Registrations and payment is due by October 28.

On Friday, November 12, there will be a School's Out program for HDS and other students featuring two Leslie Science Center workshops, one about insects and one a hike in the woods behind the JCC. Registrations and payment is due by November 9.

On Wednesday, November 24, a School's Out program will be offered for HDS, AAPS, and other students. Students will enjoy a field trip to Castaway Café, Michigan's largest indoor play structure, featuring giant slides, zip lines, bridges and more. Registrations and payment is due by November 19.

The cost for each School's Out day is $36 for care from 8 a.m.–4 p.m. ($4 off for additional siblings) and $10 for Extended Care from 4-6 p.m.

Enriching afterschool classes

The JCC has an exciting schedule of after school classes for the November-December session. Youth Enrichment classes for elementary students will begin the week of November 1 and go through the week of December 13. These fun and stimulating afternoon enrichment classes run from 4:20–5:20 p.m. and are open to everyone. Snack and supervision in the JCC's after school programs before each class are included for all class participants.

The class offerings include: a Ball Sports class for grades K–2 on Mondays, a Dazzling Desserts class for grades 1–5 on Tuesdays, a FitKids class for grades 2–5 on Wednesdays, a Lego Robotics class for grades K–3 on Wednesdays, a Basketball class for grades K–5 on Thursdays, and a Kids Yoga class for grades K-5 on Thursdays.

In addition to the afterschool enrichment classes at the JCC, a swimming class will be offered on Tuesday evenings from 5:30–6:30 p.m. at High Point School. Hebrew Day School gym teacher and Camp Raanana waterfront director Kim Braun teaches this class for swimmers and non-swimmers in grades K–5.

Registrations and payment for these classes are due by October 28. Class fees vary.

Programs on snow days for grades K–8

The JCC will once again offer Snow Day programs this winter. On days when the JCC is open but Ann Arbor Public Schools are cancelled due to winter weather conditions, a Snow Day program will be offered from 10 a.m.–6 p.m. for students in grades K–5; middle school students may participate as helpers for a reduced fee.

Students will enjoy games, gym activities and fun in the snow under the supervision of youth director Deborah Huerta and other available staff. Students should bring a nut free, dairy lunch and appropriate clothes for playing outside (weather permitting).

The Snow Days program is for JCC members only and the program fee is $50 (additional siblings and Kids' Konnection and Kids' Club participants receive discounts). Registration in advance is not required, but parents will be asked to fill out a registration form and submit payment when they arrive ■

For more information and class registration, contact Deborah Huerta at 971-0990 or deborahhuerta@jccfed.org.

Habonim Dror and Camp Tavor run school-year programming

Matan Naamani, special to the WJN

Every year, *chanichim* (campers) at Camp Tavor spend their summers taking part in a close-knit community. *Chanichim* experience a unique Jewish and Zionist education and make relationships that last a lifetime while at Tavor. This fun does not need to end every August.

Top picture: left to right:(back row) Tom Weiner and Eitan Neumark. (front row) Gabe Strauss, Noah Resnicow, Joel Appel-Kraut, Joe Friedman, Eli Shoup

Bottom left picture, left to right: Elliot Stern, Josh Cohen, Sarah Comar, Simone Whitley-Allan

During the school year, Camp Tavor and Habonim Dror North America (the youth movement which Tavor is affiliated with) run local youth groups (*kenim*) through which Jewish kids from elementary to high school can be a part of a special community. The ken in Ann Arbor, called Ken Pardes, is run by *madrichim* (counselors) from Tavor (many are alumni of the Hebrew Day School of Ann Arbor and of religious schools and programs at Beth Israel Congregation Temple Beth Emeth, and the Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Havurah) and is a community of Jewish youths and families from around the Ann Arbor area. Ken Pardes meets regularly to celebrate Shabbat and *Chaggim* and to run other educational and community activities.

For families and kids who are considering Camp Tavor, Ken Pardes is a great place to meet campers, counselors, and families from Tavor and to get a taste of the Tavor community. For families who already have kids at Tavor, Ken Pardes is a great place to continue one's involvement with Habonim and Tavor.

Many programs are planned for this year. Below is the schedule of events and informational meet-and-greets about Camp Tavor and Ken Pardes. The next informational event is scheduled for November 7 and the executive director of Camp Tavor will be present to answer any questions.

- Friday November 5, 6-8 p.m.: Yitzchak Rabin Memorial and Shabbat dinner.
- Sunday November 7, 2-4 p.m.: Information meet-and-greet.
- Sunday November 21, time TBA: A taste of Tavor.
- Friday December 3, 6-8 p.m.: Chanukah party.
- Friday December 3: Sleepover (8th grade and up) with the Detroit ken.
- Sunday December 5, 2–4 p.m.: Information meet-and-greet.

For questions or more information on Ken Pardes and/or Camp Tavor, to join the email list, or to RSVP for an informational meeting, contact Matan Naamani at 904-6578 or ken.annarbor@gmail.com. ■

A delicious time at ECC's harvest dinner

Peretz Hirshbein, special to the WJN

Over the past nine months, the classroom gardens at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor's Early Childhood Center (ECC) have been flourishing, providing children with the amazing sight of corn growing to a height of ten feet, tomato plants and bean stalks producing pounds and pounds of produce, and green peppers growing ripe. Most of the green beans and lettuce were eaten this summer, but as fall arrived, it was clear to the teachers at the ECC that there was quite a harvest coming up! ECC staff members suggested sharing our harvest with the whole ECC community, and on September 28, during the middle of Sukkot, families and teachers at the JCC Early Childhood Center gathered for the ECC's first ever pot-luck Harvest Dinner.

Many of the ECC classrooms used the produce from their garden plots to create a dish for the dinner. The children from the Giraffe room made a delicious kale frittata; the children from the Lamb and Kangaroo rooms made two different kinds of salsa; the children from the Bunny room made a vegetable chili using tomatoes and peppers from their garden box; and the children from the Duck classroom made a pesto sauce using their basil, and a tomato sauce

using their tomatoes. Each family attending the dinner brought something to add to the feast, many of them using produce from their own garden in their dishes. Many commented on the great variety of food.

Soon the ECC will be putting the garden to bed for the winter, but there will be more pot-luck gatherings in the ECC's future! To follow the ECC's garden throughout the year, go to http://bit.ly/eccgarden. For more information about the JCC Early Childhood Center, call 971-0990 or go to http://www.jccannarbor.org.

Scholarships for Jewish Summer Camps available

Eileen Freed, special to the WJN

The Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor has announced that, after a one-year hiatus, needs-based scholarships are available to make Jewish camping experiences attainable for local Jewish children. "Jewish summer camping is a proven vehicle for strengthening Jewish awareness and involvement," said David Shtulman, executive director of the Jewish Federation. "I am delighted that we were able to reinstate this important program." Local families may apply for assistance in attending both day camps and overnight camps.

The Camper Scholarship program is administered by Jewish Family Services of Washtenaw County. Application forms may be found at www.jewishannarbor.org or www.jfsannarbor.org or contact Jamie Levin at jamie@jfsannarbor.org or 769-0209.

Nahalal-Ann Arbor Student Exchange creates lasting bonds between teens

Eileen Freed, special to the WJN

Last February, the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor embarked on an exciting experiment: a two-way student exchange for high school students in Ann Arbor and Moshav Nahalal, Ann Arbor's Partnership 2000 (P2K) sister community. Seven teens spent their February break living with families in Nahalal, developing close relationships with their counterparts and experiencing life in a small, farming community in the Jezreel Valley. The participants returned with a great deal of enthusiasm for planning the second part of the exchange; the visit of their new friends to Ann Arbor.

From Top: L to R: Cassidy Moravy-Penchansky, Sarah Zimmerman, Hannah Schapiro, Shani BenTov, Hannah King, Hagar Cohen and Michal Manor

On September 22 (Erev Sukkot) fourteen 10th graders from Moshav Nahalal arrived in Ann Arbor for a ten-day visit scheduled to correspond with their Sukkot school break. They were hosted by 12 teens, some of who were new to the program, and their families, and spent a week and a half experiencing the life of a Jewish teen in Ann Arbor.

A significant aspect of the experience was attending local schools with their hosts. Five different schools in Ann Arbor, Community, Pioneer, Huron, Skyline and Greenhills welcomed the students and provided a taste of high school life in America. The Nahalal teens appreciated the opportunity to see what school is like in the USA. "It was so big," said Lipaz Kozminsky about Huron High School. Other students commented on the freedom of movement at Community. "The teachers don't tell the students what to do or when to be in class," said Shlomit Aviezer, "but the students don't take advantage. They are there when they are supposed to be."

Experiencing Jewish life in Ann Arbor

Another important part of life as a Jewish teen in Ann Arbor is extra-curricular Jewish activities such as religious school and Keshet, Ann Arbor's Hebrew language program for teens. The Nahalal teens visited the 10th grade confirmation class at Temple Beth Emeth and participated in Keshet by helping the students with their in-class assignments and interacting with the group during breaks. The experiences were so positive that the Israeli group asked to have additional opportunities to interact with the new teens they had met. They also began to develop an understanding of the extra effort taken by teens and their families to maintain their Jewish identity.

Other local Jewish visits included University of Michigan Hillel, where local and Israeli teens explored the different ways in which they express their Jewish identity; Beth Israel Congregation, where they celebrated Sukkot and Simchat Torah; and Temple Beth Emeth, where they enjoyed Kabbalat Shabbat services in the Sukkah. They also had the opportunity to interact with graduate students in the University of Michigan School of Social Work program in Jewish Communal Leadership. The concept of getting a degree to work in the Jewish community impressed them, as did the story of one student who had been the only Jew in her high school. The group spent one full day at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor where they visited the Early Childhood Center, interacted with students at Hebrew Day School, gave a presentation about Nahalal to seniors participating in the Spice Program, and completed two community service projects: outdoor leaf and weed clean up and putting lending card pockets in the books in the JCC library. "It was such a pleasure to have this group here," said Leslie Bash, executive director of the JCC. "They completed two very important projects for us, and we are so appreciative of their contribution to our community."

Visit to Zingerman's BakeHouse

Fun and lifelong friendships

As with any teen visit, there was plenty of time for fun and games. Thanks to the many community members who donated tickets, the group and many of their hosts were able to enjoy the other-worldly experience that is Michigan football. They met with their hosts and other local teens to "paint the rock" one of the most frequently mentioned highlights of their trip. There were visits to the River Rouge Ford factory, the Neutral Zone, Zingerman's Bakehouse, the U-M campus and downtown Ann Arbor. Some of the group even managed to take in a Pioneer volleyball tournament.

The teens from the two communities developed extraordinary friendships and learned from one another how being Jewish can be experienced very differently in Israel and in the USA. They also grew to appreciate what they have in common as teens and as Jews. In addition to the many visits, experiences and group sleepovers, home hospitality is what created lasting bonds between the members of the two communities. Kozminsky told her parents that "the hospitality in Ann Arbor only contributed and added to the consolidation as a group." Lavi and Yardena Manor wrote to their daughter's host family, "our daughter Michal really enjoyed her time with you; she told us that you are an amazing family. We invite you to visit our home in Nahalal."

The adults involved developed new friendships as well. Surry Scheerer, whose daughter Lilly participated in the February visit, summed up the feelings of the host families. "We were so pleased to see first-hand the heartfelt connection of our children with the Nahalal visitors. One of the lovely surprises of the visit was how profoundly connected we as parents felt with the children and their parent chaperones, Guy and Alon and Sarale. We had the opportunity to dig deep into conversations about community building and what it truly means to support each other as American and Israeli Jews. We laughed, ate, shared music and jokes and talked about how are lives are different and the same. Saying goodbye on Sunday was hard. We missed the kids, their parents and the community we had created around this visit. Still, the inspiration to stay connected to these people, to visit Israel and to recommit to our own Jewish community lingers. Oh, and the kids had a good time too!"

Parents in Nahalal were equally effusive and expressed their wishes that the relationship between the communities will continue to grow and strengthen. Kozminsky's parents wrote that their daughter's host families were "fabulous, every family was concerned about all the details and let them feel as they are part of the family…. We are waiting to host the girls at our home." Yaron and Ela Aviezer, parents of twins who participated in the visit felt that their children had an "amazing experience. We hope to continue with many more cooperative projects."

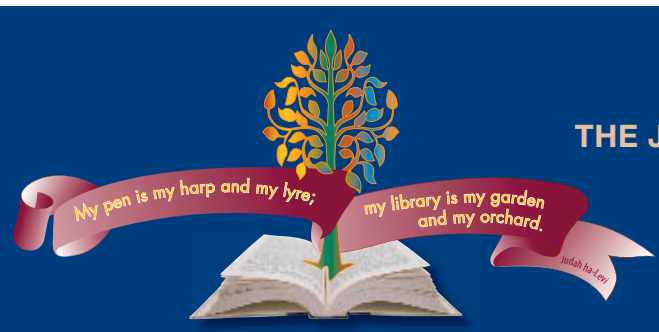
Building community in Ann Arbor and with Nahalal

David Shtulman, executive director of the Jewish Federation, participated in the closing dinner and was impressed by the way in which teens and parents expressed that this project enabled them to think about Israel and Jewish peoplehood in ways different than they had before. "I was very impressed with the comments of the local parents who spoke about how much it meant for their kids and also how it formed many new friendships among the parents as they would drop the kids off at the various events. It was a great community-building event for Ann Arbor even as it developed closer ties between our community and Moshav Nahalal." Further success of the project is evident in desire on the part of the teens and adults to continue to interact with one another. Alon Shadmi, chaperone and head of the delegation wrote "there are already plans for another meeting in the summer and excitement about the upcoming trip of the next group in November. There is even discussion among the mothers to organize a women's retreat."

David Shtulman, Halel Tamir, Hagar Cohen and Leslie Bash

The Student Exchange is one project of the Partnership 2000 Community-to-Community (C2C) program with Moshav Nahalal, co-chaired in Ann Arbor by Eva Solomon and Cheryl Sugerman. P2K connects the Jewish communities of Michigan (Detroit, Ann Arbor, Grand Rapids) with the Central Galilee (Migdal Ha'Emek, Nazareth Illit and the Jezreel Valley). Carey Sherman serves as the Ann Arbor representative on the Steering Committee and promotes Ann Arbor involvement in a range of P2K activities. Other C2C projects include the Nahalal Tent at Celebrate Israel and Nahalal participation in the Ann Arbor delegation to the Maccabi games.

The second student exchange group for 2011 is being formed with plans for a trip during the February 2011 break. To see more photos from the 2010 Student Exchange, visit the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor Facebook page. To learn more about Partnership 2000, the Community-to-Community Project or the Student Exchange, visit www.jewishannarbor.org/nahalal or contact Eileen Freed at eileenfreed@jewishannarbor.org or 677-0100. ■



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November 1-14, 2010

THE JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER OF GREATER ANN ARBOR

2010 Jewish Book Festival Schedule

JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER OF GREATER ANN ARBOR

Monday, November 1

OPENING NIGHT
Dessert Reception 7:00 p.m.
Free and Open to the Community

7:30 p.m.

Joan Nathan
Quiches, Kugels and Couscous

Tuesday, November 2

NOON
Tikkun Olam Event
LUNCH & LEARN

Marilyn Berger
This is a Soul: The Mission of Rick Hodes

7:30 p.m.

Andrei Markovits

Lars Rensmann

Gaming the World: How Sports are Reshaping Global Politics and Culture

Wed. November 3

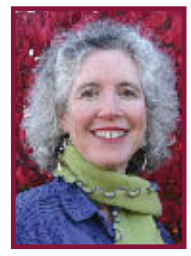
7:30 p.m.

Martin Fletcher
Walking Israel: A Personal Search for the Soul of a Nation

Friday, November 5

9:00 a.m.
It's Great to be a Grandparent!

Linda Grekin



Laura Pershin Raynor

Sunday, November 7

10:00 a.m.
Books & Bagels

Kader Konuk
East West Mimesis

6:00 p.m.
Sponsor Reception & Dinner Honoring Book Festival Donors

7:30 p.m.
Comedy Cafe'

Sam Hoffman
Old Jews Telling Jokes

Monday, November 8

NOON
Lunch & Learn

Erica Brown
Confronting Scandal

7:00 p.m.
Book Club Night

Daniel Levin
The Last Ember

Tuesday, November 9

KRISTALLNACHT COMMEMORATION DAY

NOON
Lunch & Learn

Michael Hirsh
The Liberators

7:30 p.m. at the JCC
Film Showing

No. 4 Street of Our Lady

Wednesday, November 10

NOON
Lunch with the Authors

Sharon Pomerantz
Rich Boy

Jessica Jiji
Sweet Dates of Basra

Katherine Rosman
If You Knew Suzy

7:30 p.m.

Ari Weinzweig
Zingerman's Guide to Good Leading Part 1

Thursday, November 11

NOON
Lunch & Learn

Jonathan Schneer
The Balfour Declaration

7:30 p.m.
Ladies Night Out

Zoe Fishman
Balancing Act

Sunday, November 14

10:00 a.m.
Books & Bagels

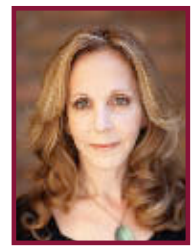
Ethan Zohn
Soccer World: South Africa- Explore the World Through Soccer'

12:30 p.m.
Local Authors' Luncheon

Jay Carp	David Schoem
Peter D. Jacobson	Caryn Shapiro
Danielle McGuire	Eugene Silverman
David Erik Nelson	Emanuel Tanay
Mitchell Rycus	Joan Zald

Celebrating our Community's Creativity

7:30 p.m.



Rebecca Goldstein
36 Arguments for the Existence of God

Register for Special Events

Lunch and Learn:
$10.00 in advance $12.00 at the door
It's Great to be a Grandparent: FREE

Book Club Night:
$15.00 Dessert & Book; $5 Dessert only
No. 4 Street of Our Lady: $10.00

Lunch with the Authors: $15.00
Ladies Night Out: FREE
Local Authors Luncheon: FREE

Ann Arbor's sister city in the making

Hannah Schapiro, special to the WJN

From September 22–October 2, I was lucky enough to have fourteen young Israeli adults spend 10 days with me. The group of tenth graders from Nahalal, Israel, got off the plane at the Detroit Metro Airport to spend time in Ann Arbor. From the rural moshav of Nahalal, a cooperative community of farmers arranged in a circular shape, to the urbanized city of Ann Arbor, the teens visiting were pleasantly surprised.

Hannah Schapiro (left) with one of her guests, Gal Sasportas

For many, it was a reunion following a trip to Israel in February 2010. For others, it was a new and exciting excursion. Like most trips to other countries, the teens came to learn the Ann Arbor culture, and spend time with people their age.

As soon as the group was assembled, there was a strong sense of unity. Could it be the fact that they are from Israel, a place with a beautiful history and intricate cities, or could it be the Jewish background, giving everyone something to relate to? There was definitely a combination of both, and more. From cruising the streets of downtown Ann Arbor, to learning to bake challah at the Zingerman's Bakehouse, everyone had an incredible time. "I wish I had had more time with them even though I was with them every second I could be. The trip was very satisfying because we had fun with whatever we were doing, whether it was really fun or something more boring," said Sarah Zimmerman, a participant in the program.

As a host, I connected with the two girls, Gal and Lipaz, staying with me. Not only did I acquire life-long friends, I also really enjoyed myself in being able to show them where I lived and having them love every minute of it. I remember Gal saying to me how nice it was to be in a house that spoke at least a little bit of Hebrew. They felt at home. We got to practice a language that only made our bonds with them stronger. "It was a great pleasure to be a mother to two new 'family members' and integrate them into our daily lives in such a short time," commented a host parent.

The Ann Arbor teens taking the 14 guests to a Michigan football game was definitely a highlight of the trip. For the few that are die-hard Michigan fans, it was a great way for them to show their pride and share an experience with the Nahalal group that really hit home.

The Israelis had the chance to attend many of the local high schools in Ann Arbor. They were intrigued by the workings of a school day here in comparison to the way it is in Israel

There were group-bonding sessions that the teens engaged in over the course of their ten-day stay. Campfires with s'mores were a big hit, as well as the group sleepovers that incorporated not only the teens and host teens, but other kids in the Ann Arbor community. Attending the synagogues for the holiday of Sukkot was also a great way to tie together the common culture we share and created a wonderful learning experience for all of us.

There is no doubt in my mind that everyone who participated in the program… had the time of their lives.

There is no doubt in my mind that everyone who participated in the program, whether a host, a chaperone or a guest, had the time of their lives. "It was a wonderful experience, and I had an amazing time in Ann Arbor," says Hagar Cohen, a first-timer to Ann Arbor. All of the activities planned were incredible, and we must give credit for the amazing trip to Eileen Freed. She made the whole thing possible, and there are a million thanks for the outstanding work she put into making it happen.

When it was time to leave, there were bittersweet feelings in everyone's hearts. Knowing that there would be another time and place to meet, lightened the mood. In retrospect, their stay seemed so short, and the idea that they had to leave touched and triggered emotions that I would have never thought tangible in such a short period of time. All of the teens that participated in this life-changing partnership intend to see all of the Israeli teens again. For now, they will truly be missed. ■

Hannah Schapiro, daughter of Margot and Brian Schapiro, is a 10th grader at Huron High School.

JCC teen programming

Deborah Huerta, special to the WJN

JCC to host Middle School Game Night

The Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor will hold its first Middle School Game Night of the year on Saturday November 6, from 6:30–10 p.m. at the JCC.

For this special event, the JCC will be transformed into a fun-filled arcade with video games such as Dance Dance Revolution, Guitar Hero, Wii Sports and more. There will also be a variety of party board games available, plus open gym time for basketball, scatterball, ga ga, and other games. A pizza dinner will be provided and a movie will be shown at 8:00 pm for those who want a break from gaming.

The Middle School Game Night is open to students in 6th–8th grades. The cost for JCC members is $20 (additional siblings: $18). The cost for non-members is $25 (additional siblings: $23). Registrations and payment are due by Thursday, November 4. Registration forms are available at the JCC and at www.jccannarbor.org.

If you have a game, console, or accessories that you would like to bring to add to the fun, call Deborah Huerta at 971-0990.

Teens invited to Mitzvah & Munchies event

The JCC has started a series of Mizvahs & Munchies events for high school students. Each event features a combination of community service / mitzvah projects, social activities, and munchies or dinner.

June 2010, Mitzvah & Munchies event

For the last Mizvahs & Munchies event in June, teens met at the JCC for activities relating to the theme "Desserts For a Cause." Participants had a chance to make, decorate, and eat a variety of fun desserts, including chocolate chip cookies, sugar cookies, and hamentashen. Many of the desserts were packaged up to deliver to families at Ronald McDonald house, and the rest were taken home by the teens to share with family and friends.

The first Mizvahs & Munchies event of this year is scheduled for Saturday, November 20, in the evening. Details are still being finalized; tentative plans are to meet for whirly ball, rock climbing, or laser tag, along with a mitzvah project and snacks.

Teen Athletes sought for 2011 JCC Maccabi Games

Each summer the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor sends a team of athletes to the JCC Maccabi Games, an Olympic-style sporting competition that incorporates community service and social activities to combine for an unforgettable experience for Jewish teens.

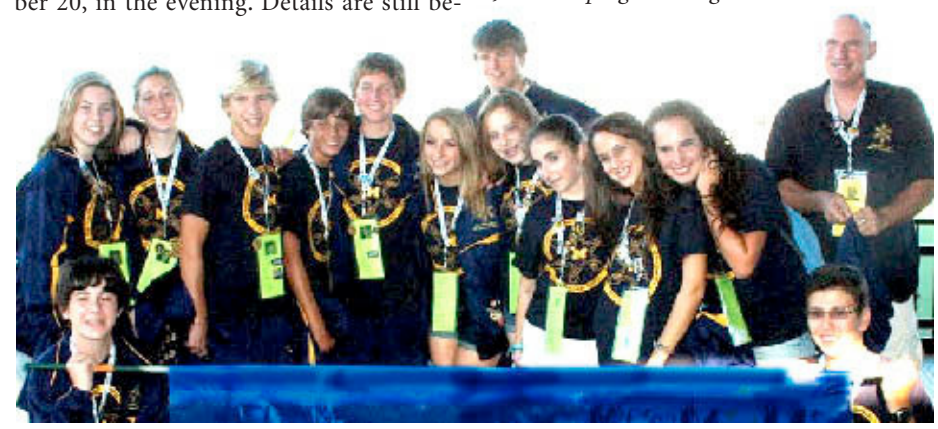
This past summer, Ann Arbor and its Partnership 2000 (P2K) sister community, Moshav Nahalal, joined forces to send 13 teens to compete in the JCC Maccabi Games in Omaha, Nebraska. The athletes competed in swimming, volleyball, dance, tennis, and soccer, and brought home over 25 medals and many wonderful memories.

Next summer, Ann Arbor's athletes will have the option to attend one of two different sites. For the first time, one of the sites for the JCC Maccabi Games will be in Israel, from July 24 – August 5, 2011. The Israel Games will feature five days of touring Israel and visiting Partnership 2000 sister communities, and four days of sports competition. Teens will be able to compete in basketball, bowling, soccer, swimming, table tennis, tennis, and girls volleyball. For the Israel Games, teens must be JCC members and must be 14-17 years old as of July 31, 2011.

The other site option available to Ann Arbor athletes is the JCC Maccabi Games in Springfield, Massachusetts from August 14-19, 2011. Teens will be able to compete in girls basketball, boys and girls soccer, volleyball, track and field, swimming, bowling, golf, and tennis. For the Springfield Games, teens must be JCC members and must be 13-16 years old as of July 31, 2011.

Athletes of all abilities are welcome to participate, and scholarship assistance will be offered for qualifying families. A limited number of spots are available, so interested families are encouraged to call the JCC as soon as possible.

Contact Deborah Huerta at deborahhuerta@jccfed.org or 971-0990 for information on all JCC teen programming.



Ann Arbor's Maccabi team

Financial assistance available for teens traveling to Israel this year

Eileen Freed, special to the WJN

The Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor has announced the availability of two sources of financial assistance for teens traveling to Israel: The Susan L. Lichter Memorial Endowed Israel Scholarship and Jewish Federation's subsidies for teen travel to Israel.

Susan L. Lichter Memorial Endowed Israel Scholarship

The Susan L. Lichter Memorial Endowed Israel Scholarship Fund provides two $2,500 scholarships annually for Ann Arbor area high school students to participate in peer group Israel experiences such as semester, summer or gap year programs. Paul and Carolyn Lichter established the fund in memory of their daughter who had a deep connection to Israel. "We wanted to establish this scholarship to keep Susan's name alive in the community and to give other young people the opportunity she had, to have a meaningful Israel experience," said Paul. The scholarship application includes the submission of an essay in which students will be asked to describe their goals for visiting Israel and how their particular program will help them meet these goals. A scholarship committee, chaired by Laurie Rashes, will determine the scholarship award winners. Applications for the Susan L. Lichter Memorial Endowed Israel Scholarship must be received in the Federation office by February 1, and awards will be determined by March 1. Winning essays will be published in the *Washtenaw Jewish News* and on the Federation website.

Federation subsidies for teen travel to Israel

The Jewish Federation believes in the value of Israel experiences for teenagers in developing Jewish identity and has reinstated subsidies for teens participating in approved, organized peer trips to Israel. Subsidies are provided for summer, semester and year programs including gap year programs (between high school and college). They are not provided for college-age students. The amount of the subsidy varies, based on the number of applicants; $9,700 has been allocated for Israel subsidies for 2011. Individuals may receive a one-time subsidy of $1000. Subsidy recipients will be expected to participate in at least one pre-trip and one post-trip meeting and will be asked to share their experiences during and/or after their trip. Applications for Israel subsidies must be received in the Federation office by March 1, and notification of subsidies will be made by April 1. Applications received after the deadline will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis if funds are still available. ■

Eligible programs

Eligible programs for the Susan L. Lichter Memorial Endowed Israel Scholarship and the Israel subsidies must be at least four weeks in length and be organized by an approved provider such as those under the auspices of Jewish youth movements, denominational movements of Judaism, MASA gap year programs, Israeli university teen summer programs, or high school study programs. Scholarships and subsidies are not awarded for family or individual travel and will be paid directly to the programs in which the selected students participate.

Local high school students interested in applying for the scholarship and/or the subsidy should visit www.jewishannarbor.org or contact Eileen Freed at eileenfreed@jewishannarbor.org or 677-0100.

High school education? Hebrew included

Milka Eliav, special to the WJN

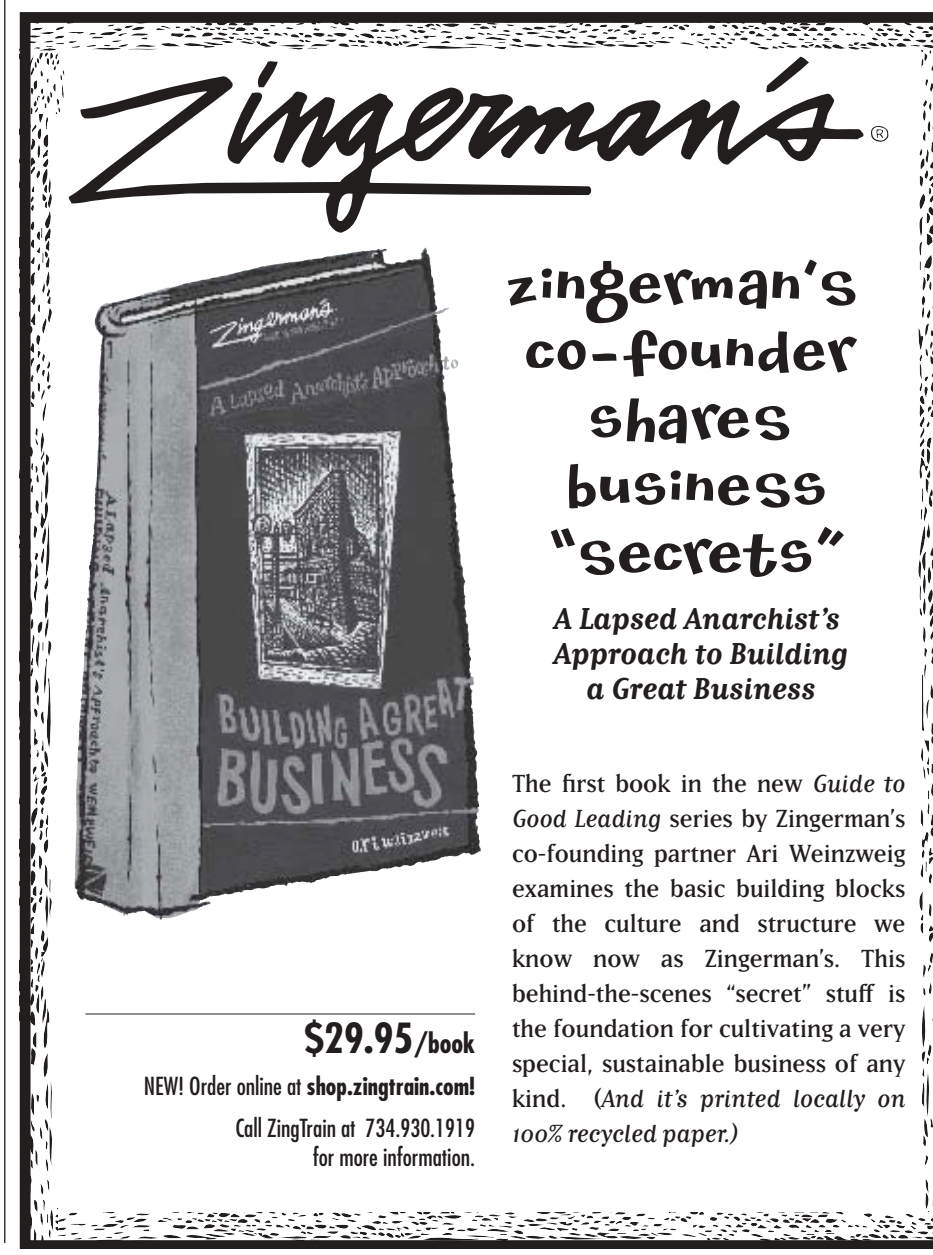
Many parents know that most colleges today require at least two years of foreign language classes in high school. The University of Michigan, for example, is requiring two, but recommending four, as do other competitive schools, such as Harvard, Stanford and more. But simply taking a high school language class, and even excelling in it, might still not give your son or daughter the edge they need to compete for a spot in their desired college. They need that unique feature, something special that will separate them from the crowd and prove they are the kind of student willing to walk the extra mile.

In Ann Arbor, high school students can aquire that "something special" for their application by joining Keshet. At Keshet, students prove that it is possible to check "all of the above": not only take the required foreign language class, but do it on their own time, after school hours, twice a week, for the entire school year. The fact that they have fun along the way, or the fact that they actually enjoy attending is just the added value; ask any high school parent and they will tell you that the importance of "fun" cannot be exaggerated.

This year, Keshet is 35-students strong, the highest enrollment in the past five years, testament to its growth in popularity among students and parents alike. Students at Keshet range in skill from those who have never seen the Hebrew "alef-bet" to those with an Israeli parent or a Day School education. Four classes accommodate every need, and UM instructors prepare age- and level-appropriate lessons that maintain academic rigor and at the same time keep students engaged and enthusiastic. The courses also adhere to standards set by the Ann Arbor Public Schools, which require, for example, that teachers be "experts in their field" and that the course be monitored by a Public Schools representative.

To join Keshet, students need one thing: the will to learn. Motivation is not a bad word here; rather, it is the engine that brings very busy teens to class after hours, and it is what makes Keshet the one of a kind program that it is.

Keshet is a unique joint effort by a number of organizations in town, chief of which are the Jewish Federation, Beth Israel Congregation and Temple Beth Emeth. It is proudly supported and sustained by generous Hebrew language lovers in the Ann Arbor community who value quality instruction and serious learning.



A Time of Thanks at Jewish Family Services

This time of year, we are especially thankful to all of our generous donors who provide financial donations, food for our pantry and clothing for our closet, so that we can share these gifts with our richly deserving clients.

As the weather turns colder and the economy continues to leave many people without basic necessities, these donations are more vital than ever.

At JFS, we are also thankful to our many dedicated volunteers. With their help, we are able to provide services to people of all faiths, races, and ages with the challenges of life.

We offer resettlement services, ESL classes, job training and career services, crisis management, older adult services (including transportation and our innovative Patient Partners medical companion program) and much more.

May you all have a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday and remember the many blessings we all share in the Ann Arbor community.

Jewish Family Services
of Washtenaw County

SAVE THE DATE!

January 23, 2011

Celebrating Harmony

The Annual JFS Bernstein Leadership Awards Honoring
Barb Stark-Nemon and ***Barry Nemon***
Featuring U of M Musical Society President ***Ken Fischer***
and a performance by internationally acclaimed concert pianist ***Dr. Louis Nagel***.

Israel under the radar

Dancing with Pamela, welcoming Bieber, an elephant moves to Turkey

By Marcy Oster

JERUSALEM (JTA—Here are some recent stories from Israel that you may have missed.

Dancing with Pamela

Former "Baywatch" star Pamela Anderson is preparing to dance into Israelis' hearts.

Coming off her sixth-place finish on America's "Dancing with the Stars," the 43-year-old Anderson will appear as a guest judge in the sixth season of Israel's "Dancing" version. In addition to voting and offering the Israeli dancers feedback, the former model and *Playboy* cover girl reportedly will do some dancing, too. Anderson's comments will be subtitled in Hebrew.

Don't mess with the monkeys

A new security barrier going up in Jerusalem will protect Israeli families from a new kind of intifada: rock-throwing chimpanzees. The chimps at Jerusalem's Biblical Zoo begin throwing rocks whenever they became agitated, *The Jerusalem Post* reported. And their rock-throwing antics usually generate large crowds, agitating them even more.

The new reinforced glass barrier, which is not called a security fence, coupled with filling in the moat in the chimpanzee exhibit, will allow the chimps to come right to the glass and get a close-up view of their human audience.

Freezing eggs for future fertility

Healthy Israeli women in their 30s can now freeze their eggs for future use.

Under the Health Ministry's national health care package, the women will be allowed to freeze 20 ova harvested in up to four extractions.

Until now, only women undergoing current fertility treatments or potentially egg-destroying treatment such as chemotherapy were covered for egg freezing under the national health care plan.

The new law, which went into effect at the beginning of the month, will also allow Israeli women to serve as egg donors, meaning that Israelis will not have to look to women abroad for egg donations.

Gabi the elephant does Turkey

A famous Israeli elephant has taken up residence in Turkey. But it's not a signal of thawing of relations between the two countries. Gabi the elephant, who was born in Jerusalem's Biblical Zoo in 2005 after being conceived by artificial insemination, boarded a ship bound for Turkey last week with two other elephants, zebras, a hippo and several lemurs from the zoo and the Ramat Gan Safari.

The animals docked in Turkey before traveling overland to a zoo in Gaziantep, not far from the Syrian border.The current tensions between Turkey and Israel, which were raised after Israeli commandos killed nine Turkish activists while intercepting a Turkish-flagged ship attempting to evade Israel's naval blockade of Gaza, were not a factor in the transfer, according to Shmulik Yedvad, the zoo's head curator. He said the transfer was handled zoo to zoo, not government to government.

"There's no connection to politics," Yedvad, who raised Gabi from birth, told the *Jerusalem Post*. He added that "Happily, everyone is working together for the good of the animals, and all the politics are just not relevant."

High prices for iPhone4

Whoever said talk is cheap never tried to purchase the latest smartphone in Israel. Israelis pay the world's highest prices for the new iPhone 4, according to several surveys.

An unlocked 16 gigabyte iPhone 4 purchased in Israel will cost nearly $1,100, compared to prices in the $700 range in Britain and Canada, according to the Israeli business daily *The Marker*.

The discrepancy in price comes from several factors, The Media Line reported, including Israel's hefty 17 percent Value Added Tax and the fact that one company, iDigital, has a monopoly on the distribution of Apple products in Israel.

The high prices send many Israelis to eBay to buy their devices, or to buy when they are abroad.

Biding their time for Bieber

Young Israeli music fans are keeping their summer music calendars open after hearing that teen pop star Justin Bieber will perform in Israel.

Seven Israeli producers are vying for the opportunity to bring the 16-year-old heartthrob to center stage in Israel next summer or perhaps in April, Yediot Achronot reported last week. The performance in Israel would be part of Bieber's "My World Tour" that began in June following the launch of his second album, "My World 2.0."

Bieber recently accepted an offer to perform in Israel at a private event held by a French millionaire, according to Yediot. The cost to stage a Bieber concert in Israel is estimated at $1.5 million, the newspaper reported. Meanwhile, a Facebook page called "Justin Bieber fans in Israel" had 11,224 fans as of early October.

'Traffic Light' gets Emmy go-ahead

An Israeli sitcom about three longtime friends and their romantic relationships was nominated for an international Emmy award.

"Ramzor," which means "traffic light" in Hebrew, was selected as a finalist by a panel of 700 judges from 50 countries.

Earlier this year, the Fox television network bought the rights to the show, which is being called "Mixed Signals" and will begin filming next month. The American version will be written by Bob Fischer, who wrote the Fox TV series "Married with Children" and the film "Wedding Crashers."

"Ramzor," which airs on Israel Channel 2 and is owned by its franchisee, Keshet, is taping its third season. Its second season was among the top 10 most watched shows of 2009, with 23.7 percent of Israelis watching.

Its competitors for the Emmy include shows from Thailand, Mexico and Britain. The winner will be announced during the November 22 Emmy Awards in New York.

Costly morning rush hour

Traffic jams in Israel are not just irritating, they are expensive. A new report issued by Israel's Finance Ministry says that the Israeli economy loses more than $5.5 billion annually as a result of traffic jams. The traffic jams may be a result of the fact that the use of public transportation by commuters going to and from work dropped by 20 percent between 1995 and 2008, along with a reported increase of the use of private cars of 15 percent, *Haaretz* reported. A 2007 United Nations study found that Israel had the most crowded roads of all the Western countries it studied.

The number of cars entering Tel Aviv daily rose by 18 percent between 2004 and 2008, and by 16 percent in Jerusalem. A rise of 46 percent of traffic in Jerusalem between 2015 and 2030 is possible, according to the Transportation Ministry.

Meanwhile, Tel Aviv said it will ban trucks from entering the city on major roads during the 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. rush hour beginning January 1. The plan is similar to one in effect in Jerusalem. ■

Despite pressure, Pete Seeger will participate in Israeli peace rally

By Sue Fishkoff

SAN FRANCISCO (JTA)—No one tells Pete Seeger what to do.

At 91, the iconic folk singer has penned hundreds of protest songs, railing against everything from the Vietnam War to global warming. He was blacklisted in the 1950s, he slept under the stars with striking farmers and he still reads the Communist "People's World"– along with *The New York Times*, of course.

Pete Seeger

Yet despite his opposition to Israeli policies in the West Bank and Gaza, Seeger refuses to heed calls to boycott an upcoming peace event organized by an Israeli institution.

In recent weeks, Seeger has rejected calls by individuals and organizations demanding that he cancel his participation in "With Earth and Each Other: A Virtual Rally for a Better Middle East," an online event promoting peace through cross-border cooperation and scheduled for a Nov. 14 global broadcast at www.withearthandeachother.org.

"My religion is that the world will not survive without dialogue," Seeger told JTA in an interview from his home in Beacon, N.Y. "I would say to the Israelis and the Palestinians, if you think it's terrible now, just think ahead 50 years to when the world blows itself up. It will get worse unless you learn how to turn the world around peacefully."

Seeger was invited to perform for the online peace rally by event organizers Friends of the Arava Institute, the North American fundraising arm of the Arava Institute for Environmental Studies. The institute works with Arab and Jewish leaders to solve the region's environmental challenges cooperatively.

Thirty other organizations have signed on to the event, ranging from Peace Child Israel to the Jewish National Fund.

Actor Mandy Patinkin will emcee an event that will feature group viewings organized around the world from San Francisco to Bonn, Germany.

Activists from the boycott, divestment and sanctions movement have been pushing Seeger to cancel, posting open letters to him on their websites.

Seeger says he's going forward and already has recorded two songs: "Od Yavo Shalom" (Hebrew for "Peace Will Yet Come") and a Lebanese song in Arabic performed with alumni of the Arava Institute. And he may break into song spontaneously during the live broadcast, too.

That doesn't mean that he supports Israeli policies toward the Palestinians, Seeger says; quite the contrary.

He is a longtime donor to the Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions, an organization that became so critical of Israel that it was dropped by the New Israel Fund years ago, and readily decries what he calls "monstrous" Israeli military actions against Palestinian civilians.

Seeger made his first trip to Israel in 1964 with his wife and children, and spent time on several kibbutzim, where he recalls being "impressed by the energy."

He visited again right before the June 1967 Six-Day War, performing the hit song "Tzena, Tzena, Tzena" before a crowd of tens of thousands in Tel Aviv. "Tzena," which he recorded in 1950 with The Weavers, remains the only Hebrew-language song to make it to the top of the U.S. music charts.

Right before that trip, Seeger stopped off in Lebanon. "I was told not to mention I was going to Israel the next week or I might not make it," he said. "I hadn't realized how serious the situation was."

Things "have gone from bad to worse" in the Middle East, says Seeger, who notes that he rarely travels anymore except for occasional trips to New York City.

Holding up the example of the Montgomery bus boycott as the key to ending racial segregation in the American South, Seeger says he does not oppose nonviolent efforts, including an economic boycott, to end the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza. But standing in the way of promoting dialogue makes no sense, he said.

"I understand why someone would want to boycott a place financially, but I don't understand why you would boycott dialogue," Seeger said. "The world will not be here in 50 years unless we learn how to communicate with each other nonviolently."

The online peace rally, which begins at 1p.m. EST on Nov. 14, presents itself as nonpolitical.

"The purpose is not to take a side or suggest what a peace process should look like, but to raise the voices of those on all sides who yearn for peace and show that there is another side of the conflict in which people are striving to work together for the betterment of all," rally co-chair Mohammed Atwa said in a news release.

"It will be a long struggle, taking generations," Seeger said of Israeli-Arab peace. "But if we don't try, we abandon the world to those who believe in violence." ■

New study of emerging Jewish leaders shows class differences

By Jacob Berkman

NEW YORK (JTA)—When the Avi Chai Foundation released sociologist Jack Wertheimer's long-awaited report on Jewish leaders in their 20s and 30s, the results of the survey did more to confirm what most observers of the organized world suspected than it did to reveal anything earth shattering.

But between the lines there were some surprises. For the study, titled "Generation of Change: How Leaders in Their Twenties and Thirties are Reshaping American Jewish Life," Wertheimer and five other well-known Jewish sociologists surveyed more than 3,000 Jews aged 22 to 40 who identify as Jewish leaders and conducted interviews with another 250. The work took two years.

The survey split respondents into two primary groups: those involved in "establishment" organizations that deal with the more traditional agenda of the American Jewish community—such as Jewish federations, AIPAC and the Anti-Defamation League—and those involved in "non-establishment" organizations, such as Jewish start-ups, social service groups and organizations built around recreation with some sort of Jewish connection.

Among other findings, the survey uncovered something of a class distinction within the young, engaged Jewish world: The more upwardly mobile seemed to affiliate with the traditional, establishment Zionist and Jewish organizations—what Wertheimer calls protective organizations—while young leaders involved in non-establishment, progressive start-ups seemed to belong more to the traditional middle class.

"What we found is that people who are in law, for example, or real estate or out in Hollywood in parts of the entertainment industry, are interested in the networking that Jewish organizations offer," Wertheimer told JTA. "So they are more attracted to the networking opportunities that the establishment provides—particularly the federations and parts of the American Jewish Committee and the ADL—whereas the non-establishment [leaders] tend to earn less and tend to be in not-for-profit work or in the helping professions."

The survey defined as leaders anyone who runs a Jewish organization, has a Jewish project, is involved in Jewish organizations or is a Jewish thinker. The survey assumed that these people would likely be in control of the organized Jewish community over the next several decades.

Wertheimer first announced the preliminary findings of his report at this past spring's Jewish Funders Network conference.

He found that those who call themselves Jewish leaders are a diverse lot that have varying affiliations with traditional or non-traditional Jewish organizations, and their views on Israel, assimilation and anti-Semitism tend to vary in relation to their organizational affiliation.

Because they share highly critical views toward key organizations and synagogues, and many work outside traditional communal institutions, these future leaders are leading the Jewish world down a new path, Wertheimer said.

The report found that leaders in both groups—establishment and non-establishment—feel a strong sense of Jewish identity and belonging to the Jewish people, and many of them share similar Jewish backgrounds.

Approximately 40 percent of individuals in both categories attended Jewish day schools. Seventy-one percent attended Jewish camps, 89 percent have two Jewish parents and about 45 percent come from homes described as Conservative. A low percentage come from Reform homes. About 55 percent of the leaders in both groups have spent time in Israel. This is proof that whatever Jewish identity-building mechanisms the community has invested in are working, Wertheimer said.

If there is one similarity between young leaders of the establishment organizations and young leaders of the start-up world, the survey showed, it is that they both feel a strong sense of Jewish identity and belonging to the Jewish people. The differences emerge in the intensity of that sense of belonging and connection to the Jewish community.

According to the survey, 73 percent of the young leaders in non-establishment organizations have a strong sense of belonging to the Jewish people, while 75 percent in the establishment organizations feel the same. On the other hand, 64 percent of the non-establishment set say they feel part of the Jewish community, compared to 73 percent of the young leaders in establishment organizations.

The viewpoints really start to diverge when it comes to the issues of Israel, anti-Semitism, intermarriage and the value of social service.

Those involved in establishment organizations feel more strongly about Israel being central to their Jewish identities (51 percent of the establishment set vs. 32 percent of the non-establishment set), more emotionally attached to Israel (62 percent vs. 55 percent), more concerned about threats to Israel's security (43 percent vs. 23 percent) and more worried about intermarriage (35 percent vs. 17 percent).

Some 39 percent of those under 40 are involved in some mix of establishment and start-up organizations, while only 27 percent were involved exclusively in establishment groups.

The study also indicates that the establishment of today is very similar in thought to the non-establishment of yesterday.

Regarding questions about Israel's security, fears of anti-Semitism and the importance of Holocaust remembrance, there is a difference between the establishment and start-up groups. However, even young leaders from establishment organizations are less fearful than the older generation of establishment leaders.

According to the study, 23 percent of young people and 39 percent of older people in the non-establishment world are concerned about threats to Israel's security, compared to 43 percent of establishment young people and 59 percent of older establishment leaders. At the same time, 9 percent of young people and 14 percent of older people in the start-up cohort are worried about anti-Semitism in the United States, compared to 19 percent of both younger and older leaders in the establishment group.

On the question of the importance of remembering the Holocaust, 23 percent of young people and 36 percent of older people in the start-up cohort believe it is essential, compared to 39 percent of young establishment leaders and 45 percent of older establishment types. ■

Novelist Ann Pearlman, words and music

Sandor Slomovits, staff writer

Ann Pearlman's first novel, *Christmas Cookie Club (CCC)*,was published late last year and has since been translated into seven languages. It's about a group of women who meet before the holidays every year to exchange cookies they've baked, and also to catch up on what's been happening in their lives. The book is based on a real Christmas cookie club that Pearlman herself belongs to locally, and includes many cookie recipes, and fascinating histories of some of the ingredients. Her next book, *The Christmas Cookie Club Cookbook: All the Rules and Delicious recipes to Start Your Own Holiday Cookie Club* is due out this month, along with the trade paperback of *CCC*. Her next novel, a sequel to *CCC*, will be out next October.

CCC has many musical references interspersed throughout the book and I asked Pearlman about the role music plays in her writing and in her life. But first I asked the obvious question, and she repeated it.

Pearlman: What's a nice Jewish girl like you writing about Christmas cookies? It doesn't seem Christian to me, first of all. I was born on Christmas Day, which has never seemed really Christian to me either. I've always had extremely eclectic friends. I've never cared what race or what religion anybody was. I belong to a real Christmas cookie club. I though it was the only one. I didn't know that this fun thing had been happening in the Christian community all across the country for a while. A friend invited me to her Christmas cookie club. I love parties and (in novels) I love the idea of the action being contained in a time. I've always wanted to write a novel about that. So, when I went to my first party I thought, "Here is that contained thing, and it's the perfect way to talk about the importance of women's friendships, and how crucial they are. Because it was really apparent in this group of friends. The thing that I liked, that made it very special to me, was the charity component. I mean, baking cookies and giving them is one thing, but baking cookies and giving them to people you don't know, and making them really special cookies, and making them pretty, in pretty packages, is an entirely different thing. It just felt so, so good. To me, the message in the *CCC* book is about rebirth, about how we endure and about the importance of love. It's an anti-materialist message, which is ironic, considering how disgusting Christmas often is. The cookies I make usually end up in Chanukah parties and yoga parties

WJN: There is music throughout *CCC*.

Pearlman: They made me take so much of it out. It's so heartbreaking to me. But what I did was I made CDs of the music that they took out and I gave it to my editor, and to the movie producer, Wendy Finerman, who is best friends with the head of Sony. They all got my CD of all the music they took out.

WJN: The music is what your characters dance to. It's the soundtrack of your book.

Pearlman: I had it labeled on my own little play list, "Soundtrack for C3"

WJN: Writers often refer to music in their works, it's one of the classic ways of bringing the sense of sound into books, but you also mentioned to me once that you write with music going in the background.

Pearlman: It's not only that I write with it in the background, it's in my life. When I was writing a chapter that would hearken back to, say 1965 or 1976, I would check what was being played then and make a little play list of my favorite songs from that time and then play that. And when I wrote, "Inside the Crips," that's all about music. Because Ice Tea wrote the foreword and music was, is, so important to Colton because he's one of the founders of Death Row Records. So, I started listening to all this rap music, and now as I ride around town the parking attendants look at me and they say, "You like Tupac Shakur?

WJN: You mentioned that Fauré's Requiem makes an appearance in the novel you're working on now, the sequel to *CCC*.

Pearlman: It's my favorite piece of music. I also paint to that music. I paint and I do sculpture, but I wouldn't think of doing sculpture to Fauré. To music, yes, to rock 'n roll.

The most fun about the next novel is, I love being Tara. (*CCC's* main character's daughter) You can kind of sense by the end of *CCC* that she and Aaron make it really big as rap singers. So I got to write about all kinds of way cool concerts, all over the country, and I just loved that. So fun. My editor tells me I could have a career writing rap lyrics. (Laughter)

WJN: Will you get to keep all the lyrics in you next book?

Pearlman: No. She's already told me, "You have to ax these. Nobody likes reading these."

WJN: How long have you been writing?

Pearlman: I came to writing in eighth grade, when a painting was donated to my school and, as a thank you, we were supposed to write a little letter. And I looked at the painting, which was a very schmaltzy picture of kids, but behind them was the sea. And I wrote a poem about the sea that was published. And I had this feeling, when you're totally transported in the act of creation, and I felt that and I've been writing ever since. So I wrote a whole bunch of ridiculous novels as a teenager and figured, so what am I going to do? I have this thing I love to do, writing, and I know I need a way to support myself, so I became a therapist. But my first book was published in 1982, and I've written all kinds of novels that haven't been published. So, I didn't come to writing late. I was doing things like seeing 30, 40 patients and raising three kids, trying to hold a marriage together, enjoying a divorce (Laughter).

WJN: And what about the music?

Pearlman: I've always envied musicians. Of all the arts, it's the one I have the least talent in. Musicians get to do it with someone. Writers and artists are so isolated. I've always wondered what it would be like to be in a symphony orchestra and hearing all the music around you.

My mom was a Lefty, so as a kid we walked through Chicago singing, "We Shall Not Be Moved," and Negro chain gang songs, which are the roots of rap. My mom was a great jazz fan, too. The music was just always in my life. And, as a teenager I discovered, what was then called 'Race Music' and listened to WAMO, Porky Chadwick, in Pittsburgh, early doo-wop. I play drums, I play an ashika.

WJN: Is that a hand drum, related to the African djembe?

Pearlman: Yes, it's just smaller. I have both. I used to play in the drum circles on Friday nights in Gallup Park. People brought instruments. It came out of chaos theory, I think, (Laughter) but it always worked. If I ever get stuck, writing, I go play my drum. There's something about that rhythmical thing; I guess it switches me to another side of my brain, it jolts things.

WJN: You very conscientiously use music to help you write. It's not just background, it actually evokes… .

Pearlman: Yes. When I'm writing, when it's going really well, I'm just flying, taking down the scenes, the sounds, the voices, and trying to capture them as best as I can. And the music is just there, along with the colors of the clothes, the expressions on the people's faces.

WJN: To me perhaps the most gripping scene in the book is about the woman whose son dies in a construction accident. Not only is the story itself gripping, but also the way you write how she describes to her friends what happened.

Pearlman: You know that's a true story from one of the women who is in my real life Christmas cookie club. I mention that in the acknowledgements. She has since become a minister. The most amazing thing that has happened with this book is… there was an interview that appeared in the *Detroit Free Press.* The reporter came to the cookie club and she met the true Charlene. She ended up writing about her, mentioning her son, and giving her real name. Daphne, that's her real name, lost a sister for a quarter of a century, and had been trying to find her. And the sister just happened to Google her around Christmas, because she was missing her, and her name popped up with the story and they found each other. You know, you do something and you never know the positive things that are going to happen as a result. (Since the book has been out) I get letters and comments from people all over the world, about the importance of their cookie party parties, or that they're starting cookie parties, or as they start them, how meaningful they are. There's a whole group of people now who are baking cookies for the homeless in Chicago. This is really good, but how about tuna fish and oranges? (Laughter) But cookies are good. ■

For I.B. Singer's *Magician*, some torturous decisions

By Adam Kirsch

NEW YORK (Tablet)—A few weeks ago, writing about Antony Polonsky's history of Eastern European Jewry in the late 19th century, I remarked on the way that American Jewish nostalgia and guilt toward the vanished "old world" makes it difficult for us to see that world as it really was.

The reputation of Isaac Bashevis Singer, whose novel *The Magician of Lublin* has just been reissued in a 50th-anniversary edition, is one major example of this kind of confusion.

A large part of Singer's popularity, there can be no doubt, comes from the way he lends himself to being read as a folklorist, writing about dybbuks and holy fools in an age-old Jewish landscape. That the world he wrote about, and the Yiddish language he wrote in, were practically extinguished in the decade after he came to the United States, in 1935, only increases the sense that he was a messenger from another world.

The Nobel Committee's official biography of Singer, who won the literature prize in 1978, sums up this view perfectly: He wrote about "the world and life of East European Jewry, such as it was lived in cities and villages, in poverty and persecution, and imbued with sincere piety and rites combined with blind faith and superstition."

One commenter recommending Singer's stories in a web forum puts the basic idea more naively: "If I could have chosen a grandfather, I would have chosen this man for the stories alone."

Look a little closer, however, and it becomes clear that Singer, far from being gentle and grandfatherly, was as shockingly modern a writer as Dostoevsky. He is a chronicler of spiritual disintegration, exploring the devastating effects of appetite and passion—even of thought itself—on souls unprotected by faith.

When devils appear in his work, as in the great story "The Gentleman From Cracow," they are not quaint folk-devils but figures of genuine, terrifying evil. And in his post-Holocaust ghost stories, like "A Wedding in Brownsville" and "The Cafeteria," he seems to transcend parable, as if only the literally incredible—a party full of murdered Jews who don't know they are dead, the appearance of Hitler in a Broadway cafe—could be adequate to the unbelievable truth.

The Magician of Lublin may not exactly be "a lost classic," as the cover of the new paperback claims—it went through several editions in the 1960s and 1970s, and was even made into a movie in 1979 starring Alan Arkin. But its reissuance is still quite welcome because the novel is one of the clearest examples of the ways this urban, intellectual, 20th century writer makes use of the materials of the Jewish past.

Take the title, which sounds like it could be a Chasidic folk tale about a wonder-working rabbi. In fact, Yasha Mazur, the title character, is a magician in the sense that Harry Houdini was a magician: He is an acrobat, contortionist and escape artist who performs at theaters in Poland while he dreams of making it big in Western Europe.

Another way of putting it is that he is an imposter, using sleight of hand to show people the kinds of miracles they so desperately want to believe in.

In this way, Singer makes clear, the magician is a stand-in for the novelist whose powers of imagination are also a kind of secular enchantment. And Yasha serves Singer in much the same way that Moses Herzog served Saul Bellow in *Herzog*, a novel published a few years later: as a surrogate self, a way of turning his own experiences and reveries into fiction. Certainly the plot of *The Magician of Lublin* is one that must have resonated personally for Singer, since it is substantially the same as those of *Enemies: A Love Story* and *Shadows on the Hudson*: A man suffers a spiritual crisis as he juggles love affairs with three women.

When we first meet Yasha, he is at home with his wife, the pious Esther, who "wore the customary kerchief and kept a kosher kitchen; she observed the Sabbath and all the laws." But, crucially, she is unable to have children, and Singer makes much of the fact that Yasha has never assumed a father's stake in the community. He remains a kind of overgrown child himself, only dropping in on Esther for a few days between performing tours. And once he is back on the road his assistant, Magda, a Polish gentile, doubles as a common-law wife—so much so that her mother treats Yasha as practically a son-in-law.

As the novel opens, however, we learn that this comfortable quasi-bigamy has been upset by Yasha's love for a new woman, Emilia, a professor's widow who lives a precariously genteel life in Warsaw. It is clear, in the way of a fairy tale, that each of these women also represents a fate: If Esther is Jewish tradition and Magda is artistic bohemia, Emilia represents bourgeois striving. Unlike Yasha's other lovers, she will not sleep with him until they are married, and she will not marry him unless he converts to Catholicism, takes her away to Italy, and works toward becoming famous and respectable.

The plot, which unfolds over a few days, is driven by Yasha's uncertainty about which woman, and which life, he wants. There is also the further complication that to make Emilia's dreams come true, he will need to get his hands on a large sum of money. For the most part, the book consists simply of Yasha's restless roaming through the city as he tries to make up his mind.

This gives Singer the chance to imagine the Polish capital in the 1870s, in the process of transforming itself into a metropolis:

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Levin takes aim at a new Goliath: the 1460 American Jewish canon

By Marissa Brostoff

NEW YORK (Tablet)—Are we approaching the end of days? In May, the young fiction writer (and *Tablet Magazine* contributor) Joshua Cohen came out with *Witz*, a preposterously long, immensely ambitious novel about a child-man who may be the messiah and who heralds the end of the Jews as we know them.

Witz is a novel about the Last Jew that's also trying, trying, to be the Last Jewish Novel," Cohen said in an interview at the time. "To found the genre of genre-annihilation, that was the intent."

Now, uncannily, first-time novelist Adam Levin is set to publish *The Instructions,* a preposterously long, immensely ambitious novel on the very same subject. And as if in response to Cohen's challenge, *The Instructions* proclaims itself something like the first post-Jewish novel, one that leaves behind the modern-day Jewish literary tradition and starts over. That is to say, *The Instructions* purports to be a new work of scripture.

The Instructions is in fact a vital work of—no getting around it—American Jewish literature because it imagines that the genre is indeed through and asks what can be written in its place. A Nabokovian book within a book, *The Instructions* purports to be a divinely inspired work by its antihero, teenage would-be messiah Gurion Maccabee. It is Gurion's astonishing conceit that out of boredom with the current state of Jewish fiction, he will write, and enact, the word of God instead.

"I am not even remotely interested in writing a two-page short story about made-up Jewish people eating dinner," he explains, "so instead I've written scripture."

This is, like most things Gurion says, at least a partial lie: An extraordinary scene in which Jewish people eat dinner begins three pages later. But we also know what he means. Most of the tropes we associate with American Jewish literature have either vanished here or been somehow reversed. The Holocaust and how we remember it get barely a mention. There is no sex, no messy family dynamics. No one is trying to assimilate, join a club that won't have him as a member or escape Judaism.

Rather, Gurion and his followers want to intensify their Judaism. They are "Israelites": stronger, prouder, better-armed, more God-fearing versions of the Jews, their predecessors. So what's left to talk about when we trade the American Jewish novel for ersatz religious-Zionist scripture? Plenty, it turns out: chosenness, nationhood, violence, power, the end of the world—the most important Jewish questions, perhaps, of our day.

Over more than a thousand pages, Gurion turns four days of his childhood in Chicago's northern suburbs into an epic journey from bondage (in a junior-high lockdown program for behavior problems) to freedom, with unmistakable echoes of the Exodus. Or at least that's what he wants us to read: This is his Pentateuch, and he has constructed himself as a latter-day Moses. The reader may come to suspect, however, that he is merely a pint-size cult leader. Only God (and perhaps Levin) knows for sure.

Gurion's endless, and endlessly captivating, shaggy-dog story—narrated in a pidgin of invented youth lingo, untranslated bits of Yiddish and Hebrew, extended biblical commentaries, and God-speak ("and I saw that it was good")—is set in a world just supernatural enough to keep us wondering whether our narrator might be the messiah after all.

A few years after his arrival is prophesied by Rabbi Menachem Schneerson (himself considered the messiah by some Lubavitcher Chasidim), Gurion is born with birthmarks that spell "Adonai," a mouth full of teeth, and a genius for both leadership (assisted by his ex-IDF-sniper mother) and scholarship (refined by his attorney father, Judah Maccabee).

His talent for demagoguery appears early, too. Gurion's Jewish day school classmates revere him; they are the first to float the messiah theory. Gurion finds a textual loophole that keeps them and himself in a state of suspended disbelief. A popular interpretation of Maimonides holds that a potential messiah arises in every generation, though none will be actualized until the time is right. He's probably not the messiah, but one never knows for sure.

Things begin to go downhill when Gurion, at 9, assaults a teacher who makes fun of his messianic aspirations. He is expelled and sent to another day school. After a local anti-Semitic incident, he arms his new classmates with homemade weapons (slingshots—there's no cap on the number of biblical heroes with whom he hopes to be identified), and delivers the first of many sermons that seem to borrow rhetoric from extremist settler groups.

"Never again will we cower amidst the masses of the Roman and Canaanite children," he proclaims. "Blessed is Elohim, Who blesses our weapons."

Gurion gets kicked out of that school, too.

The main action of *The Instructions* takes place as Gurion, now 10, organizes his fellow inmates in "the Cage" at Aptakisic Junior High, a public school *Cuckoo's Nest*-style. Meanwhile, day-school boys around the city

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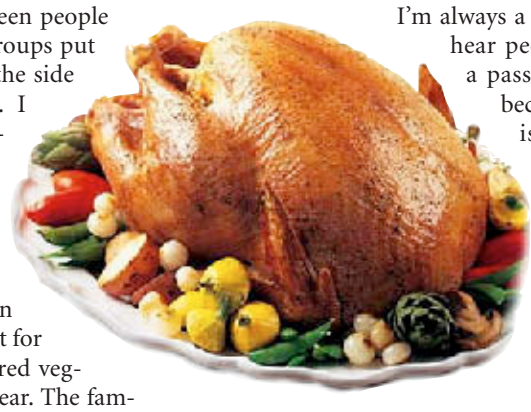
At Thanksgiving, a cornucopia of Jewish side dishes

By Linda Morel

NEW YORK (JTA)—The best thing about Thanksgiving is that it is inviting to Americans of all religions and ethnic backgrounds. On the same autumn Thursday, most American families eat turkey and a cornucopia of side dishes.

No country has been more welcoming to the Jews than the United States. Thanksgiving is a metaphor for the opportunities this country offers Jewish people.

While turkey is the centerpiece of the harvest table, I've seen people of various ethnic groups put their own spin on the side dishes they serve. I grew up with an Italian friend whose mother always made two lasagnas—for either side of the turkey. An Indian woman who used to baby-sit for my daughter prepared vegetable curry every year. The family of a Cuban friend offered up black beans and rice.



Recently I started thinking, why can't foods from the canon of Jewish cuisine accompany the Thanksgiving turkey? After all, most traditional Thanksgiving foods, such as sweet potatoes, string beans and dried fruit, are pareve and were readily available in many of the countries where Jews have lived. Surely there must be many recipes to tap.

The first that came to mind was a basic sweet potato tzimmes, a wildly popular dish throughout the Ashkenazi world. Loaded with carrots and dried fruit surrounded by a sweetened sauce, tzimmes would be perfect to serve with turkey. I add a generous amount of ginger to my recipe, giving this traditional dish a sassy air.

Many recipes from Sephardic countries start with instructions to sauté onions in olive oil. Add a vegetable, such as green beans or Brussels sprouts, before simmering in tomato sauce for an easy dish that's always delicious.

Perusing Jewish cookbooks, I found a medley of recipes, including cranberry rice from Iran, a luscious Moroccan couscous stuffing, Indian curries, and stuffed pumpkin dishes from Bukhara to Iraq.

If your family adores a particular Jewish delicacy from its country of origin, serve it this Thanksgiving. There's no reason why you can't celebrate being Jewish and American at the same time.

I'm always a bit dashed when I hear people say they take a pass on Thanksgiving because it's not a Jewish holiday. With its inclusiveness, Thanksgiving not only reflects the principles for which this country stands but also Jewish values.

The holiday's name encourages us to be thankful for the food on our table and for living in a land of plenty. I find it poignant that the concept of plenty has diminished during our current economic downturn.

The fourth Thursday in November is all about celebrating the end of the growing season and getting together with family and friends to share warm feelings and a nice meal. It actually reminds me of a one-day version of Sukkot, the Jewish harvest festival that stretches over seven glorious days.

If the November issues of food magazines prove anything, it's that people are always searching for exotic side dishes to adorn the Thanksgiving turkey. Why not dip into the archives of Jewish cuisine to dazzle your guests with foods that our people have been savoring for centuries? ■

The following recipes are by Linda Morel.

Sephardic string beans in tomato sauce

2 tablespoons olive oil
1 medium-sized onion, diced
2 garlic cloves, minced
1 pound string beans, rinsed in cold water, tips and ends snipped
Kosher salt to taste
1 (8-ounce) can tomato sauce

1. In a large pot, heat olive oil on a medium flame. Saute onion and garlic in olive oil until softened but not burnt, about 2 minutes. Add the string beans to the pot. Sprinkle with salt and stir. Saute for 2 minutes, stirring.

2. Pour the tomato sauce into the pot and stir to coat string beans evenly. Cover pot and simmer on a medium low flame, until string beans are softened but not wilted, about 3-5 minutes. Serve immediately.

Yield: 6 servings. Parve

Indian curried cauliflower, potatoes and peas

2 tablespoons vegetable oil
2 medium-sized onions, diced
6 garlic cloves, minced
3 tomatoes, chopped
1 cauliflower, broken into florets
1 ½ pounds baby white potatoes, cut in half or thirds, depending on size
2 tablespoons tomato paste
Kosher salt to taste
⅛ teaspoon ground turmeric
½ teaspoon ground ginger
1 ½ teaspoons ground curry
1 ½ teaspoons ground cumin
Dash of cayenne pepper, or more if you like hot food
1 ½ cups frozen peas, defrosted
3 tablespoons fresh cilantro leaves, chopped

1. Heat oil in a large pot on a medium flame. Saute onions and garlic until transparent, about 2 minutes.

2. Add the chopped tomatoes and simmer until they soften and give off a little sauce. Add the cauliflower and potatoes, stirring.

3. Place the tomato paste, kosher salt and spices into 1 cup of water. Stir to blend. Pour this mixture into the pot and stir. Cover the pot and simmer, stirring occasionally, for 45 minutes, or until the cauliflower and potatoes soften. Remove from heat and cool to warm before adding the peas. Gently stir to blend. Heat on a low flame and serve immediately, or cover and refrigerate for 24 hours before reheating on a low flame. While piping hot, sprinkle ilantro on top.

Yield: Serves 6. Parve

Tangy tzimmes

1 (4-inch) finger-shaped piece of ginger root
4 medium sized sweet potatoes
6 medium sized carrots
1 (9-ounce can), about 1 cup, pitted prunes
⅔ cup dried apricots
¼ cup apricot jam
¼ cup brown sugar
½ teaspoon ground cinnamon
⅛ teaspoon allspice
Juice of 1 lemon
Zest of 1 orange, plus the juice
½ cup water
½ cup white wine

1. Scrape the peel from the ginger. Dice ginger and then chop it fine.

2. Peel the sweet potatoes and carrots. Cut them into 1-inch chunks.

3. Place all ingredients in a large pot. Cover and simmer on a medium-low flame for 45 minutes, or until potatoes and carrots soften. Serve immediately or cool to room temperature and refrigerate in a covered container. Recipe can be made up to three days in advance. Reheat on a low flame before serving.

Yield: 8-10 servings. Parve

Moroccan style couscous

½ cup slivered almonds
1 (2-inch) finger-shaped piece of ginger root
1 ½ teaspoons margarine (preferably non-hydrogenated) or butter to saute, plus 1 tablespoon cut into quarters
⅛ teaspoon turmeric
Dash of white pepper
Kosher salt to taste
1 cup uncooked plain couscous, preferably Near East brand (1 box of Near East contains 1 cup)
½ cup dried cranberries
1 tablespoon chopped cilantro, optional garnish

1. Spread almonds on a baking sheet and roast in a 350° oven for 2 minutes, or until almonds turn golden brown. This can be done in a toaster oven. Watch almonds carefully as they burn easily. Remove from oven and reserve.

2. Peel ginger. Dice it, then chop it fine.

3. In a medium-sized saucepan, melt 1 ½ teaspoons margarine or butter on a medium flame. Add ginger and saute until tender, about 1 minute. Add turmeric, white pepper and salt. Quickly stir, then pour in 2 cups of water. Cover saucepan and bring this mixture to a boil.

4. Pour couscous into boiling water and quickly stir to combine. Cover the pot and remove it from the flame. Let stand 5 minutes. Fluff couscous with a fork.

5. Add the remaining tablespoon of margarine or butter and dried cranberries. Stir to combine. Cover the pot for 1 minute. Place couscous in a serving bowl. Sprinkle almonds on top, and cilantro, if using. Serve immediately.

Yield: Serves 6. Pareve or Dairy

Calendar

November 2010

Monday 1

Torah Trop: TBE. With Cantor Annie Rose. Noon.

Jewish Book Festival: JCC Cultural Arts and Education. Featuring Joan Nathan, author of *Quiches, Kugels and Couscous. 7:30 p.m.*

Women's Torah Study: TBE. With Cantor Annie Rose using the "Women of Reform Judaism" Torah commentary. 7:30 p.m.

Hebrew Reading Crash Course: TBE. Five-session class focusing on learning to read Hebrew. For information, contact Rabbi Lisa Delson at 665-4744 or by email at ldelson@templebethemeth.org. 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday 2

Schools Out/JCC's IN: JCC Youth. On days when HDS or AAPS schools are closed but the JCC is open, the JCC Youth Department offers full day School's Out programs featuring field trips or special activities. Programs are for JCC members only in grades K–5. Middle School students may participate as helpers for a reduced fee. Field trip to The Scrap Box in the morning and chance to make patriotic desserts in honor of Election Day in the afternoon. $36/day for 8 a.m.–4 p.m. ($4 off for additional siblings). $10/day for PM Care, if needed. (No PM Care charge for Kids' Konnection/Kids' Club students enrolled that day of the week.)

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 11 a.m., $4/session or $10/3 sessions; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Games and activities including mahjong, quilting, art projects and card games. 1 p.m. Wii sports including bowling, tennis, golf and baseball. No experience necessary. 1 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

Jewish Book Festival: JCC Cultural Arts and Education. Featuring Marilyn Berger, author of *This is a Soul: The Mission of Rick Hodes.* Lunch at Noon. Free author presentation at 12:30 p.m. $10 in advance for lunch or $12 at the door.

"Medicine and Morals: Your Jewish Guide Through Life's Tough Decisions:" JLI. Fall semester course. Many people are faced with tough medical and ethical issues related to topics such as life support, genetic disorders, organ donation, and more. This course is based on three premises: today's complex medical issues are fascinating, profound, and likely to kick up lively classroom discussion; Jewish wisdom has much to say about such matters; and the best time to deal with issues is now, rather than when under pressure. 9:30–11 a.m. at Chabad House and 7:30–9 p.m. at the JCC. *Every Tuesday.*

Yidish Tish (**Yiddish Conversational Group**). All ages and levels welcome including U-M and non-U-M participants. 1:30 p.m. at Beanster's Café, ground floor of U-M Michigan League. For information, call 936-2367.

"Joseph Unplugged!" BIC. With Rabbi Dobrusin for high school students. 6:30 p.m.

Jewish Book Festival: JCC Cultural Arts and Education. Featuring Andrei Markovits and Lars Rensmann, authors of *Gaming the World: How Sports are Reshaping Global Politics and Culture.* 7:30 p.m.

Spirituality Book Club: TBE. With Cantor Annie Rose. This month's selection is *The Challenge of the Soul: A Guide for the Spiritual Warrior* by Rabbi Niles Elliot Goldstein. 7:30 p.m.

Weekly Torah Portion—for Women: Chabad. Reading the Bible may be easy, but understanding it is no simple matter. Study the text in the original, together with the classical commentaries. 8:30 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

Wednesday 3

Pre-School Story Hour: TBE. With Wendy Holden for children ages 3-5 and their caregivers. 10 a.m.

Akedah Class: TBE. Three-session class taught by Ilan Rosenberg, mainly in Hebrew for those who read Hebrew. $36. To enroll, contact Rabbi Lisa Delson at 665-4744 or by email at ldelson@templebethemeth.org. *Also November 10 and 17.*

Lunch and Learn: BIC. Bring a dairy lunch, snacks and beverages will be provided. Noon.

"Albert Kahn's Craftsmen:" Jewish Historical Society of Michigan. Presentation by archivist Jan Durecki. Temple Beth El, 7400 Telegraph Road at 14 Mile Road, Bloomfield Hills. $5/admission, limited seating. Reservations appreciated at 248-865-0628. 7 p.m.

Jewish Book Festival: JCC Cultural Arts and Education. Featuring Martin Fletcher, author of *Walking Israel: A Personal Search for the Soul of a Nation.* 7:30 p.m.

Thursday 4

Prayer, Weekly Torah Reading and Jewish Philosophy–for Women: Chabad. 9 a.m. at the JCC.

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 10 a.m., $4 or 3/$10; Current Events with Heather Dombey, a Jewish perspective on this week's news, 11 a.m.; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Special events and guest presentations, 1 p.m.; Literary Group with Sidney Warschausky at 2:15 p.m. Call Merrill Poliner at 971-0990 for name of current book.

Spirituality Book Club: TBE. With Cantor Annie Rose. This month's selection is *The Challenge of the Soul: A Guide for the Spiritual Warrior* by Rabbi Niles Elliot Goldstein. Noon.

Birthdays and Presentation: JCC Seniors. Celebration for all with November birthdays. Family and friends invited for lunch and birthday cake at 12:30 p.m. Laura Dunbar, education and outreach director of the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra, will discuss the upcoming "Strings of Fire" concert at 1 p.m.

Israeli Dancing: JCC. Israeli dancing with Laura and Amnon Steiner from 7:30–10 p.m. Beginners and oldies at 7:30 p.m. Requests starting at 8:30 p.m. $5/admission. Students are free. For more information, visit www.a2rikud.org, email a2rikud@gmail.com or phone 395-4223. Also *November 11 and 18.*

Talmud Study Group–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. Sharpen your wits and knowledge of the Jewish legal system by following the intriguing discussions in the Talmud. The Talmud is a composite of practical law, logical argumentation and moral teachings. Study of the original Talmud tractate Taanit chapter 2. 8 p.m. *Every Thursday.*

Friday 5

Weekly Yiddish Reading Group: JCC Seniors. Meets at the JCC. 1:30 p.m. Call Ray Juni at 761-2765 for information.

"It's Great To Be a Grandparent:" JCC Cultural Arts and Education. Jewish Book Festival presents light continental breakfast and workshop for adults on how to be great communicators with children through literacy, with Linda Grekin, teacher, children's librarian and ECC parent. ECC Preschoolers will be brought to the lounge and will be engaged by Laura Pershin Raynor. A Shabbat celebration follows. 9 a.m.

Tot Shabbat and Dinner: TBE. Tot service at 5:30 p.m. and dinner at 6 p.m., followed by shira.

Sukkat Shalom: TBE. Preceded by dinner at 6 p.m.

Rabin Memorial and Dinner: Ken Pardes. Yitzchak Rabin Memorial and Shabbat dinner. 5–8 p.m. For information, contact Matan Naamani at ken.annarbor@gmail.com.

Shabbat Dinner: BIC. For 7th Graders. 7 p.m.

Friday evening services: *See listing at the end of the calendar.*

Saturday 6

Torah Study: TBE. With Rabbi Levy. No preparation necessary. 8:50 a.m.

Shabbat Limmud: BIC. With Rabbi Dobrusin. 9 a.m.

Saturday Morning Minyan: TBE. With Rabbi Lisa Delson. 9:30 a.m.

Middle School Game Night: JCC Youth. The JCC will be transformed into a fun-filled arcade with video games such as Dance Dance Revolution, Guitar Hero, Wii Sports and more. Also, variety of party board games available, plus open gym time for basketball, scatterball, ga ga, and other games. Pizza dinner will be provided and a movie will be shown at 8 p.m. $20/JCC members, $18/additional siblings; $25/Non-members, $23/additional siblings. 6:30–10 p.m. For information, contact Deborah Huerta at deborahhuerta@jccfed.org or phone 971-0990.

Mystical Insights to the Torah–for Women: Chabad. Learn more about the mystical dimensions of the Torah. 1 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Laws of Shabbat–Jewish Ethics: Chabad. Study group code of law for Shabbat, and study of Jewish Ethics, 1/2 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Shabbat services: *See listing at the end of the calendar.*

Sunday 7

Reading Hebrew through the Prayer Book–for Women: Chabad. An in-depth study into the prayer book, an overview of the weekly Torah reading, with Jewish philosophy. 9:30 a.m. *Every Sunday.*

Books and Bagels: JCC Cultural Arts and Education. Jewish Book Festival presents Books and Bagels featuring Kader Konuk, author of *East West Mimesis: Auerbach in Turkey.* For information, contact Mimi Weisberg at mimiweisberg@jccfed.org or phone 971-0990. 10 a.m.

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidism and open your eyes to the beauty of Judaism. 10:30 a.m. *Every Sunday.*

Info Meet and Greet: Ken Pardes. For more information, contact Matan Naamani at ken.annarbor@gmail.com.

Jewish Book Festival: JCC Cultural Arts and Education. Featuring Sam Hoffman, author of *Old Jews Telling Jokes.* For information, contact Mimi Weisberg at mimiweisberg@jccfed.org or phone 971-0990. 7:30 p.m.

Basic Judaism: TBE. Class taught by Rabbi Lisa Delson. For information, contact Rabbi Delson at 665-4477 or by email at ldelson@templebetheemeth.org. 7:45 p.m.

Jewish Concepts–for Women: Chabad. Learn the deeper meanings of the Jewish way of life. 8 p.m. *Every Sunday*.

Monday 8

Jewish Book Festival: JCC Cultural Arts and Education. Featuring Erica Brown, author of *Confronting Scandal: How Jews Can Respond When Jews Do Bad Things.* Lunch at Noon. Free author presentation at 12:30 p.m.. $10 in advance for lunch or $12 at the door. For information, contact Mimi Weisberg at mimiweisberg@jccfed.org or phone 971-0990.

Torah Trop: TBE. With Cantor Annie Rose. Noon.

Book Club Night: JCC Cultural Arts and Education. Jewish Book Festival features Daniel Levin, author of *The Last Ember*. Dessert and Book Package is $15. Free author presentation. For information, contact Mimi Weisberg at mimiweisberg@jccfed.org or phone 971-0990. 7 p.m.

Board Meeting: TBE Sisterhood. 7 p.m.

Hebrew Reading Crash Course: TBE. Five-session class focusing on learning to read Hebrew. For information, contact Rabbi Lisa Delson at 665-4744 or by email at ldelson@templebethemeth.org. 7:30 p.m.

Talmud Study: BIC. With Rabbi Dobrusin. 8 p.m.

Tuesday 9

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 11 a.m., $4/session or $10/3 sessions; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Games and activities including mahjong, quilting, art projects and card games. 1 p.m. Wii sports including bowling, tennis, golf and baseball. No experience necessary. 1 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

"Medicine and Morals: Your Jewish Guide Through Life's Tough Decisions:" JLI. Fall semester course. Many people are faced with tough medical and ethical issues related to topics such as life support, genetic disorders, organ donation, and more. This course is based on three premises: today's complex medical issues are fascinating, profound, and likely to kick up lively classroom discussion; Jewish wisdom has much to say about such matters; and the best time to deal with issues is now, rather than when under pressure. 9:30–11 a.m. at Chabad House and 7:30–9 p.m. at the JCC. *Every Tuesday.*

Lunch with the Authors: JCC Cultural Arts and Education. Jewish Book Festival featuring Michael Hirsh, author of *The Liberators.* $10 for lunch at Noon; $12 at the door. Free author presentation at 12:30 p.m. For information, contact Mimi Weisberg at mimiweisberg@jccfed.org or phone 971-0990.

Yidish Tish (Yiddish Conversational Group): All ages and levels welcome including UM and non-UM participants. 1:30 p.m. at Beanster's Café, ground floor of UM Michigan League. For information, call 936-2367.

"Joseph Unplugged!" BIC. With Rabbi Dobrusin for high school students. 6:30 p.m.

Film Showing: JCC Cultural Arts and Education. Jewish Book Festival presents showing of *No. 4 Street of Our Lady.* $10. For information, contact Mimi Weisberg at mimiweisberg@jccfed.org or phone 971-0990. 7:30 p.m.

Men's Torah Study: TBE. With Roger Stutesman. For information, contact rgstutesman@sbcglobal.net. 7:30 p.m.

Weekly Torah Portion—for Women: Chabad. Reading the Bible may be easy, but understanding it is no simple matter. Study the text in the original, together with the classical commentaries. 8:30 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

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Pre-School Story Hour: TBE. With Wendy Holden for children ages 3-5 and their caregivers. 10 a.m.

Akedah Class: TBE. Second session of three-session class taught by Ilan Rosenberg, mainly in Hebrew for those who read Hebrew. $36. To enroll, contact Rabbi Lisa Delson at 665-4744 or by email at ldelson@templebethemeth.org. *Also November 17.*

Lunch and Learn: BIC. Bring a dairy lunch, snacks and beverages will be provided. Noon.

Lunch with the Authors: JCC Cultural Arts and Education. Jewish Book Festival featuring: Sharon Pomerantz, author of *Rich Boy;* Jessica Gigi, author of *Sweet Dates of Basra;* and Katherine Rosman, author of *If You Knew Suzy: A Mother, A Daughter, a Reporter's Notebook.* $15 for lunch at Noon. Free author presentation at 12:30 p.m. For information, contact Mimi Weisberg at mimiweisberg@jccfed.org or phone 971-0990.

Jewish Parents' Study Group: BIC Women's League. With in-depth study, discussion and support for parents, this group focuses on Jewish parenting, a Jewish home, Jewish social life for the whole family, and the connection between home, synagogue and religious school. Grandparents and non-League members also welcome. For information, contact Yvonne Wardle at fulloflife01@live.com or phone 945-8256. 4:30–5:30 p.m.

Jewish Book Festival: JCC Cultural Arts and Education. Featuring Ari Weinzweig, author of *Zingerman's Guide to Good Leading Part 1: A Lapsed Anarchist's Approach to Building a Great Business.* For information, contact Mimi Weisberg at mimiweisberg@jccfed.org or phone 971-0990. 7:30 p.m.

Thursday 11

Prayer, Weekly Torah Reading and Jewish Philosophy–for Women: Chabad. 9 a.m. at the JCC.

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 10 a.m., $4 or 3/$10; Current Events with Heather Dombey, a Jewish perspective on this week's news, 11 a.m.; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Special events and guest presentations, 1 p.m.; Literary Group with Sidney Warschausky at 2:15 p.m. Call Merrill Poliner at 971-0990 for name of current book.

Jewish Book Festival Lunch and Learn: JCC Cultural Arts and Education. Featuring Jonathan Schneer, author of *The Balfour Declaration: The Origins of the Arab-Israeli Conflict.* $10 in advance/$12 at the door for lunch at Noon. Free author presentation at 12:30 p.m. For information, contact Mimi Weisberg at mimiweisberg@jccfed.org or phone 971-0990.

Israeli Dancing: JCC. 7:30 p.m. *See November 4.*

Jewish Book Festival: JCC Cultural Arts and Education. Featuring Zoe Fishman, author of *Balancing Act.* For information, contact Mimi Weisberg at mimiweisberg@jccfed.org or phone 971-0990. 7:30 p.m.

Talmud Study Group–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. Sharpen your wits and knowledge of the Jewish legal system by following the intriguing discussions in the Talmud. The Talmud is a composite of practical law, logical argumentation and moral teachings. Study of the original Talmud tractate Taanit chapter 2. 8 p.m. *Every Thursday.*

Friday 12

Schools Out/JCC's IN: JCC Youth. On days when HDS or AAPS schools are closed but the JCC is open, the JCC Youth Department offers full day School's Out programs featuring field trips or special activities. Programs are for JCC members only in grades K-5. Middle School students may participate as helpers for a reduced fee. Activities will include two Leslie Science Center workshops. Learn all about insects and go outside, rain or shine, to explore the JCC's woods. $36/day for 8 a.m.–4 p.m. ($4 off for additional siblings). $10/day for PM Care, if needed. No PM Care charge for Kids' Konnection/Kids' Club students enrolled that day of the week.

Weekly Yiddish Reading Group: JCC Seniors. Meets at the JCC. 1:30 p.m. Call Ray Juni at 761-2765 for information.

Tot Shabbat and Dinner: TBE. Tot Shabbat at 5:30 p.m. Dinner at 6 p.m. Followed by shira.

Sukkat Shalom Service: TBE. For "tot grads" preceded by dinner. 6:30 p.m.

Family Shabbat and Middle School Service: TBE. Both services at 7:30 p.m.

Friday evening services: *See listing at the end of the calendar.*

Saturday 13

Mini Minyan: BIC. For K-2nd Graders. 11 a.m.

Kehillat Shabbat: BIC. For 3rd–5th Graders. 11 a.m.

Tot Shabbat: BIC. For preschoolers and their families. 11:15 a.m.

Torah Study: TBE. Led by Rabbi Levy at 8:50 a.m. Followed by Morning Minyan at 9:30 a.m., led by Rabbi Delson.

Chanukah Bazaar: TBE Sisterhood. Gift items from Chanukah gelt and menorahs to toys, books, games, and a wide array of Judaica. 8 a.m.–3 p.m.

Mystical Insights to the Torah–for Women: Chabad. Learn more about the mystical dimensions of the Torah. 1 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Laws of Shabbat–Jewish Ethics: Chabad. Study group code of law for Shabbat, and study of Jewish Ethics, 1/2 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Shabbat services: *See listing at the end of the calendar.*

Sunday 14

Reading Hebrew through the Prayer Book–for Women: Chabad. An in-depth study into the prayer book, plus an overview of the weekly Torah reading, with Jewish philosophy. 9:30 a.m. *Every Sunday.*

Beth Israel Café: BIC Women's League. Play games, use wi-fi, socialize, read books and newspapers, and enjoy refreshments. Kids area has crafts, coloring pages, books, games and more. Jewish resources and educational materials are available for all ages. For information, contact Yvonne Wardle at fulloflife01@live.com or phone 945-8256. 9:30 a.m.–Noon.

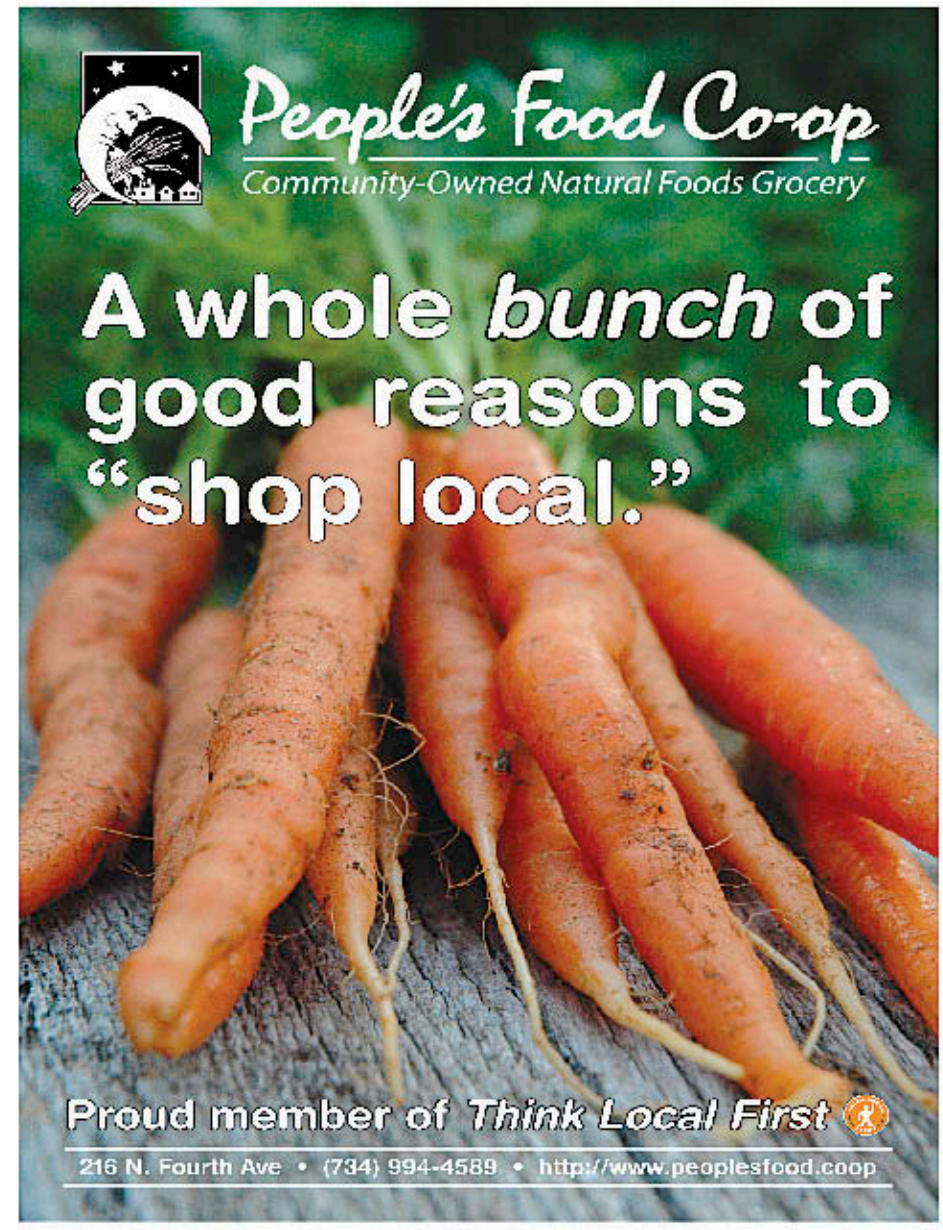
Jewish Book Festival: JCC Cultural Arts and Education. Featuring Ethan Zohn, *Survivor* winner and author of *Soccer World: South Africa–Explore the World Through Soccer.* For information, contact Mimi Weisberg at mimiweisberg@jccfed.org or phone 971-0990. 10 a.m.

Local Author's Luncheon: JCC Cultural Arts and Education. Jewish Book Festival event featuring Jay Carp, Peter D. Jacobson, David Erik Nelson, Mitchell Rycus, David Schoem, Caryn Shapiro, Eugene Silverman, Emanuel Tanay, and Joan Zald. Celebration of the community's creativity. Each author will discuss their book and answer questions. For information, contact Mimi Weisberg at mimiweisberg@jccfed.org or phone 971-0990. 1Noon.

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidism and open your eyes to the beauty of Judaism. 10:30 a.m. *Every Sunday.*

Chanukah Bazaar: TBE Sisterhood. 3–7:30 p.m.

Jewish Book Festival: JCC Cultural Arts and Education. Featuring Rebecca Goldstein, author of *36 Arguments for the Existence of God: A Work of Fiction.* For information, contact Mimi Weisberg at mimiweisberg@jccfed.org or phone 971-0990. 7:30 p.m.



Calendar

Basic Judaism: TBE. Class at 7:45 p.m.

Jewish Concepts–for Women: Chabad. Learn the deeper meanings of the Jewish way of life. 8 p.m. *Every Sunday.*

Monday 15

Torah Trop: TBE. With Cantor Rose. Noon.

Women's Torah Study: TBE. With Cantor Annie Rose using the "Women of Reform Judaism" Torah commentary. 7:30 p.m.

Hebrew Reading Crash Course: TBE. Five-session class focusing on learning to read Hebrew. For information, contact Rabbi Lisa Delson at 665-4744 or by email at ldelson@templebethemeth.org. 7:30 p.m.

"Anee Yosef–I am Joseph:" BIC. Led by Rabbi Dobrusin. 8 p.m.

Tuesday 16

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 11 a.m., $4/session or $10/3 sessions; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Games and activities including mahjong, quilting, art projects and card games. 1 p.m. Wii sports including bowling, tennis, golf and baseball. No experience necessary. 1 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

"Medicine and Morals: Your Jewish Guide Through Life's Tough Decisions:" JLI. Fall semester course. 9:30–11 a.m. at Chabad House and 7:30–9 p.m. at the JCC. *See November 2.*

Movie Tuesday: TBE. Viewing of *Bonjour Monsieur Shlomi,* an Israeli film abut 16-year old Shlomi who is brilliant but fails to achieve his potential, instead focusing on caring for his dysfunctional family and new love interest. 1 p.m.

Yidish Tish (Yiddish Conversational Group): All ages and levels welcome including UM and non-UM participants. 1:30 p.m. at Beanster's Café, ground floor of UM Michigan League. For information, call 936-2367.

"Joseph Unplugged!" BIC. With Rabbi Dobrusin for high school students. 6:30 p.m.

Weekly Torah Portion—for Women: Chabad. Reading the Bible may be easy, but understanding it is no simple matter. Study the text in the original, together with the classical commentaries. 8:30 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

Wallenberg Award and Lecture. Congolese physician Denis Mukwege is this year's recipient. After the medal presentation, Mukwege will deliver the Wallenberg Lecture. 7:30 p.m., in Rackham Auditorium, on the U-M campus.

Wednesday 17

Pre-School Story Hour: TBE. With Wendy Holden for children ages 3-5 and their caregivers. 10 a.m.

Lunch and Learn: BIC. Bring a dairy lunch, snacks and beverages will be provided. Noon.

Afternoon Delights Concert: JCC Older Adult Programs. Featuring pianist Stephanie Weaver. Refreshments at 1 p.m. Concert at 1:30 p.m. $8 in advance or at the door. For information, contact Merrill Poliner at merrill@jfsannarbor.org or phone 971-0990.

Akedah Class: TBE. Third session of three-session class taught by Ilan Rosenberg, mainly in Hebrew for those who read Hebrew. $36. To enroll, contact Rabbi Lisa Delson at 665-4744 or by email at ldelson@templebethemeth.org.

Thursday 18

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 10 a.m., $4 or 3/$10; Current Events with Heather Dombey, a Jewish perspective on this week's news, 11 a.m.; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Special events and guest presentations, 1 p.m.; Literary Group with Sidney Warschausky at 2:15 p.m. Call Merrill Poliner at 971-0990 for name of current book.

Prayer, Weekly Torah Reading and Jewish Philosophy–for Women: Chabad. 9 a.m. at the JCC.

Question Session and Travelogue: JCC Seniors. Allison Pollock, JFS Geriatric Social Worker, will be available for discussion, questions and assistance at 12:30 p.m. Travelogue around the United States at 1 p.m.

Caregiver Conversations: JFS. Monthly drop-in educational and support group for adult children in a variety of caregiving roles for their aging parents. This month's topic is "Geriatric Care Management: What is it, and how can it help us?" RSVP to abbie@jfsannarbor.org or phone 769-0209. 6:30-8 p.m.

Israeli Dancing: JCC. 7:30 p.m. *See November 4.*

Talmud Study Group–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. Sharpen your wits and knowledge of the Jewish legal system by following the intriguing discussions in the Talmud. The Talmud is a composite of practical law, logical argumentation and moral teachings. Study of the original Talmud tractate Taanit chapter 2. 8 p.m. *Every Thursday.*

Friday 19

Weekly Yiddish Reading Group: JCC Seniors. Meets at the JCC. 1:30 p.m. Call Ray Juni at 761-2765 for information.

Tot Shabbat: TBE. Tot Shabbat service at 5:30 p.m. and dinner at 6 p.m. Followed by shira.

Adult Shabbat Dinner: TBE. 6 p.m.

Friday Night Lights: BIC. Kabbalat Service followed by a family friendly Shabbat dinner. 6 p.m.

Sukkat Shalom: TBE. Service for "tot grads," preceded by dinner. 6:30 p.m.

Service with Kol Halev: TBE. 7:30 p.m.

Friday evening services: *See listing at the end of the calendar.*

Saturday 20

Torah Study: TBE. With Rabi Levy. Drop-in discussion of weekly Torah portion. No preparation necessary. 8:50 a.m. Followed by Morning Minyan with Rabbi Delson at 9:30 a.m.

Shabbat Limmud: BIC. With Rabbi Dobrusin. 9 a.m.

Tot Shabbat: BIC. For preschoolers and their families. 11:15 a.m.

Mitzvahs and Munchies: JCC Youth. For high school students featuring a combination of community service mitzvah projects, social activities, munchies or dinner. Time TBD. For information, contact Deborah Huerta at Deborah huerta@jccfed.org or phone 971-0990.

Mystical Insights to the Torah–for Women: Chabad. Learn more about the mystical dimensions of the Torah. 1 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Laws of Shabbat–Jewish Ethics: Chabad. Study group code of law for Shabbat, and study of Jewish Ethics, 1/2 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Concert: TBE. Ralph Katz and Friends offer an evening of musical entertainment from Katz and Company. For information, call 665-4744 or visit www.templebethemeth.org. 8 p.m.

Havdalah Café: Jewish Women's Circle. Informal meeting at Chabad House includes light refreshments, conversation, opportunity to learn about Havdalah, and to make Havdalah spice box. Nanci Jenkins of Spice Merchants in Kerrytown will present a history of traditional spices and their culinary uses. $10/suggested donation. To

reserve a spot, call Esther Goldstein at 995-3276 or email esther@jewmich.com.

Melave Malka: AAOM. Soup, muffins, cider, and socializing. Featuring a talk by Rabbi Rod Glogower, "Jacob's Nocturnal Struggle: Wrestling the Demon Within." All community members welcome. 8 p.m. in the Hillel Lounge.

Shabbat services: *See listing at the end of the calendar.*

Sunday 21

Reading Hebrew through the Prayer Book–for Women: Chabad. An in-depth study into the prayer book, an overview of the weekly Torah reading, with Jewish philosophy. 9:30 a.m. *Every Sunday.*

Tot Storytime: BIC. In the Children's Library. 9:30 a.m.

Chanukah-Mania: BIC Women's League. Visit the Gift Shop for great Chanukah selections. For information, contact Yvonne Wardle at fulloflife01@live.com or phone 945-8256. 5–6:30 p.m.

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidism and open your eyes to the beauty of Judaism. 10:30 a.m. *Every Sunday.*

Auction and Dinner: BIC Women's League. Annual fundraiser featuring a raffle, kosher spaghetti dinner, and an auction. Pre-registration required. For information, contact Yvonne Wardle at fulloflife01@live.com or phone 945-8256. 6:30–9 p.m.

Basic Judaism: TBE. Class at 7:45 p.m.

Jewish Concepts–for Women: Chabad. Learning the deeper meanings to the Jewish way of life. 8 p.m. *Every Sunday*.

Monday 22

Torah Trop with Cantor Rose: TBE. Noon.

English as a Second Language Daily Classes: JFS. Ongoing class from 9 a.m.–noon on Mondays–Fridays and 1–3 p.m. on Mondays–Thursdays at Jewish Family Services, 2245 South State Street. For more information, contact JFS at 769-0209 or email andre@jfsannarbor.org. *Ongoing*.

Social Action Event: TBE Twenties and Thirties and YAD. Volunteer at Food Gatherers. Bring non-perishable food items. RSVP by November 19 to Brett Willner at bwillner@templebethemeth.org or phone 665-4744.

Tuesday 23

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 11 a.m., $4/session or $10/3 sessions; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Games and activities including mahjong, quilting, art projects and card games. 1 p.m. Wii sports including bowling, tennis, golf and baseball. No experience necessary. 1 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

"Medicine and Morals: Your Jewish Guide Through Life's Tough Decisions:" JLI. Fall semester course. 9:30–11 a.m. at Chabad House and 7:30–9 p.m. at the JCC. *See November 2.*

Yidish Tish (Yiddish Conversational Group): All ages and levels welcome including UM and non-UM participants. 1:30 p.m. at Beanster's Café, ground floor of U-M Michigan League. For information, call 936-2367.

Weekly Torah Portion—for Women: Chabad. Reading the Bible may be easy, but understanding it is no simple matter. Study the text in the original, together with the classical commentaries. 8:30 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

Wednesday 24

Schools Out/JCC's IN: JCC Youth. On days when HDS or AAPS schools are closed but the JCC is open, the JCC Youth Department offers full day School's Out programs featuring field trips or special activities. Programs are for JCC members only in grades K-5. Middle School students may participate as helpers for a reduced fee. Field trip to Castaway Café, Michigan's largest indoor play structure, featuring giant slides, zip lines, bridges and more. $36/day for 8 a.m.–4 p.m. ($4 off for additional siblings). $10/day for PM Care, if needed. No PM Care charge for Kids' Konnection/Kids' Club students enrolled that day of the week.

Erev Thanksgiving Service: TBE and St. Clare's Episcopal Church. Clergy from both congregations conduct the service that includes a joint choir. Oneg follows. 7:30 p.m.

Thursday 25

JCC closed for Thanksgiving.

Prayer, Weekly Torah Reading and Jewish Philosophy–for Women: Chabad. 9 a.m. at the JCC.

Talmud Study Group–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. Sharpen your wits and knowledge of the Jewish legal system by following the intriguing discussions in the Talmud. The Talmud is a composite of practical law, logical argumentation and moral teachings. Study of the original Talmud tractate Taanit chapter 2. 8 p.m. *Every Thursday.*

Friday 26

Weekly Yiddish Reading Group: JCC Seniors. Meets at the JCC. 1:30 p.m. Call Ray Juni at 761-2765 for information.

Tot Shabbat and Dinner: TBE. Begins at 5:30 p.m. Dinner at 6 p.m. followed by shira.

Sukkat Shalom Service: TBE. For "tot grads," preceded by dinner. 6:30 p.m.

Friday evening services: *See listing at the end of the calendar.*

Saturday 27

Torah Study: TBE. With Rabi Levy. Drop-in discussion of weekly Torah portion. No preparation necessary. 8:50 a.m. Followed by Morning Minyan with Rabbi Delson at 9:30 a.m.

Mystical Insights to the Torah–for Women: Chabad. Learn more about the mystical dimensions of the Torah: Chabad. 1 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Laws of Shabbat–Jewish Ethics: Chabad. Study group code of law for Shabbat, and study of Jewish Ethics, 1/2 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Shabbat services: *See listing at the end of the calendar.*

Sunday 28

Reading Hebrew through the Prayer Book–for Women: Chabad. An in-depth study into the prayer book, an overview of the weekly Torah reading, with Jewish philosophy. 9:30 a.m. at Chabad House. *Every Sunday.*

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidism and open your eyes to the beauty of Judaism. 10:30 a.m. at Chabad House. *Every Sunday.*

Jewish Concepts–for Women: Chabad. Learning the deeper meanings to the Jewish way of life. 8 p.m. *Every Sunday.*

Monday 29

English as a Second Language Daily Classes: JFS. Ongoing class from 9 a.m.–noon on Mondays–Fridays and 1–3 p.m. on Mondays–Thursdays at Jewish Family Services, 2245 South State Street. For more information, contact JFS at 769-0209 or email andre@jfsannarbor.org. *Ongoing.*

Torah Trop: TBE. With Cantor Rose. Noon.

Beit Café Adult Education Night: TBE. Choose two of four educational offerings with a coffee and nosh in between. 7 p.m.

Tuesday 30

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 11 a.m., $4/session or $10/3 sessions; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Games and activities including mahjong, quilting, art projects and card games. 1 p.m. Wii sports including bowling, tennis, golf and baseball. No experience necessary. 1 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

"Medicine and Morals: Your Jewish Guide Through Life's Tough Decisions:" JLI. Fall semester course. 9:30–11 a.m. at Chabad House and 7:30–9 p.m. at the JCC. *See November 2.*

Yidish Tish (Yiddish Conversational Group): All ages and levels welcome including UM and non-UM participants. 1:30 p.m. at Beanster's Café, ground floor of UM Michigan League. For information, call 936-2367.

Weekly Torah Portion—for Women: Chabad. Reading the Bible may be easy, but understanding it is no simple matter. Study the text in the original, together with the classical commentaries. 8:30 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

Weekly Friday night Shabbat services

Shabbat Service: AAOM. Services held at UM Hillel. Call 994-9258 in advance to confirm time.

Shabbat Service: BIC. 6 p.m.

Shabbat Service: TBE. Tot Shabbat at 5:30 p.m., followed by tot dinner. Sukkat Shalom service at 6:30 p.m. for "tot grads," preceded by dinner. Shira at 6:30 p.m. Oneg for Tot and Sukkat Shalom families at 7 p.m. Traditional Service at 7:30 p.m. Once a month Middle School Service at 7:30 p.m. For information, call 665-4744.

Shabbat Service: Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Havurah. 6:15 PM at the JCC the last Friday each month. Musical Shabbat service followed by vegetarian potluck. Tot Shabbat with optional kid's pizza dinner at 6:00 PM. All are welcome to attend. For information, call 913-9705, email info@aarecon.org or visit www.aarecon.org.

Shabbat Service: Chabad. Begins at candlelighting time. Home hospitality available for Shabbat meals and Jewish holidays. Call 995-3276 in advance.

Weekly Shabbat services

Shabbat Services: AAOM. Morning service, 9:30 a.m. Evening service, 35 minutes before sunset. Call 662-5805 for information. Mincha/Ma'ariv with Seudah Shlisheet and Dvar Torah every week. Torah topics and a bite to eat. Discussions led by Rabbi Rod Glogower and other local scholars. Home hospitality available for Shabbat meals. U-M Hillel.

Shabbat Services: BIC. 9:30 a.m. Morning childcare from 10 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Shabbat Services: AA Reconstructionist Havurah. Discussion-based format with topics changing monthly. For info, email info@aarecon.org or call 913-9705 or visit www.aarecon.org.

Shabbat Services: Chabad. Morning services at 9:45 a.m. Afternoon services 45 minutes before sundown.

Shabbat Services: Pardes Hannah. Generally meets the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month. Call 663-4039 for more information. 10 a.m. Led by Rabbi Elliot Ginsburg.

Shabbat Services: TBE. Torah Study with Rabbi Levy at 8:50 a.m. Morning Minyan with Rabbi Delson and lay leaders at 9:30 a.m. Sanctuary Service at 10 a.m. most weeks. Call the office at 665-4744 or consult website at www.templebethemeth.org for service details.

Home Hospitality for Shabbat and Holiday Meals: AAOM. Call 662-5805 in advance.

Home Hospitality and Meals: Chabad. Every Shabbat and Holiday. Call 995-3276 in advance.

Phone numbers and addresses of organizations frequently listed in the calendar:

Ann Arbor Orthodox Minyan (AAOM)
1429 Hill Street 994-5822

Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Havurah (AARH)
P.O. Box 7451, Ann Arbor 913-9705

Beth Israel Congregation (BIC)
2000 Washtenaw Avenue 665-9897

Chabad House
715 Hill Street 995-3276

EMU Hillel
965 Washtenaw Avenue, Ypsilanti 482-0456

Jewish Community Center (JCC)
2935 Birch Hollow Drive 971-0990

Jewish Cultural Society (JCS)
2935 Birch Hollow Drive 975-9872

Jewish Family Services (JFS)
2245 South State Street 769-0209

Jewish Federation
2939 Birch Hollow Drive 677-0100

Pardes Hannah
2010 Washtenaw Avenue 761-5324

Temple Beth Emeth (TBE)
2309 Packard Road 665-4744

UM Hillel
1429 Hill Street 769-0500

Shabbat Candlelighting

November 5	6:06 p.m.
November 12	4:59 p.m.
November 19	4:52 p.m.
November 26	4:48 p.m.

Non-local banks think the Arb serves roast beef.

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Magician, continued frrom page 24

"In Warsaw, wooden sidewalks were ripped up, interior plumbing installed, rails for horse trolleys laid, tall buildings erected, as well as entire courtyards and markets," he writes. "The theaters offered a new season of drama, comedy, operas, and concerts. … The bookstores featured newly published novels, as well as scientific works, encyclopedias, lexicons, and dictionaries."

As he goes from apartment to tavern to synagogue, Yasha also keeps up a frenetic internal debate. Like Bellow, his contemporary and occasional translator, Singer makes a middle-aged man's joyless womanizing a symptom of a deeper spiritual crisis.

In the first few pages, he contrasts Esther's piety with her husband's skepticism.

"Yasha spent his Sabbath talking and smoking cigarettes among musicians," Singer writes. "To the earnest moralists who attempted to get him to mend his ways, he would always answer: 'When were you in heaven, and what did God look like?' "

It is a mocking question but, as the book unfolds, also a deadly serious one, for it becomes clear that Yasha's lusts are the product of boredom and despair: "Like a drunkard who drowns his sorrow in alcohol, he thought. He could never understand how people managed to live in one place and spend their entire lives with one woman without becoming melancholy. He, Yasha, was forever at the point of depression."

But if Yasha is unable to commit to Esther, or to his ancestors' beliefs and way of living, he is unequally unable to commit to Emilia and break with his inherited conscience. He changes his mind about God and Judaism literally from one page to the next.

When Yasha stumbles into a prayerhouse and puts on tefillin for the first time since adolescence, he is filled with a sudden sense of God's presence.

"Yes, that there were other worlds, Yasha had always felt," Singer writes. "He could almost see them. I must be a Jew! he said to himself. A Jew like all the others!"

So ends chapter 6; as chapter 7 begins, he starts to wonder, "Why all the excitement? What proof is there that a God exists who hears your prayers? There are innumerable religions in the world, and each contradicts the other."

Yasha's ambivalence finally takes a concrete toll. In a rush of manic self-confidence, he decides to break into a miser's apartment, where he knows there is a fortune hidden. But whether it is a sign from heaven or the revenge of his superego, all his dexterity deserts him. Not only does he fail to get the money, he breaks his leg jumping from the second-story balcony.

The last part of the novel is colored by Yasha's increasing pain, and his reckless refusal to get the leg treated—as if he is half-consciously willing himself to die, as the only possible escape from his quandary.

"His fingers had become white and shrunken, the tips shriveled like those of a mortally ill person or of a corpse. It was as if his heart were being crushed by a giant fist," Singer writes.

As it turns out, the novel has a different ending in store for Yasha. His sins will be punished by death, but not his own; and the guilt of this culminating tragedy will drive him into an act of penitence that recalls both the legends of the Baal Shem Tov and the stories of Kafka.

The dark power of *The Magician of Lublin* is nowhere clearer than in its concluding message—that for a modern man, to return to God may require a decision as violent and frightening as any crime. ■

Reprinted from Tabletmag.com, a new read on Jewish life.

The Instructions, continued frrom page 24

await his instructions. As his two armies line up behind him, Gurion becomes increasingly convinced that he is the savior of the Jews. Things get very dark from there.

Gurion continually diverts us with a Torah's worth of memorable subplots. A day-school playground on the morning of the World Trade Center attacks is suffused with terrifying euphoria as the grade schoolers realize they have finally "become the underdog." A schism erupts between Jewish and non-Jewish members of the Shovers, a fratty crew at Aptakisic, when a Christian student wants to include an ichthys among the symbols on the group's identifying scarves. And Gurion's family is increasingly harassed by Jewish community members when, in a nod to the Skokie affair, Judah Maccabee takes on a neo-Nazi client.

These stories pile up, slowly building evidence for Gurion's central thesis: Everyone wants, above all else, a pretext or opportunity for doing violence. This bleak view is a hallmark of the teen boy literary canon, to which *The Instructions* owes much. Behind the unassuming visage of the meekest band geek is a bully whose bloodthirst will be unleashed if he is simply given the chance. And beneath the responsible patter of authority figures is an unalloyed desire to monopolize the legitimate use of violence. "Fear is contempt," as Gurion's best friend puts it, "whether the fearful know it or not."

Gurion believes this cycle of violence is ennobling, and that with God and himself on their side, the Jews will win. This is an easy enough belief system to pin on a Jack Tytell figure crouching with a rifle on a Hebron hilltop. But Gurion struggles to make you, the reader—or at least the Jewish reader—complicit.

This is how the scriptural form produces its most unsettling effect: Scriptures directly address followers, or would-be followers, so if you are a Jew reading *The Instructions*, you are harangued to grab a slingshot and join up. I can only hazard a guess that as a non-Jewish reader, you would not feel so welcome.

If, as Gurion likes to remind us, some nags have always considered American Jewish literature a "shande far di goyim" because it airs vast regions of unsightly Jewish shame, Levin has written a daunting "Israelite" novel with a big "Jews Only" sign on it, exposing vast regions of unsightly Jewish pride.

One way to read *The Instructions* might be as a giant postmodern gag about the impossibility of ceasing to write American Jewish novels because wedged between the apocalyptic stuff is a gorgeous portrait of an ordinary Jewish community. Not just Levin but Gurion knows this perfectly well, and to remind us, he constantly looks over his shoulder to his idol Philip Roth. Though he insists his own project is a post-Rothian (because post-Jewish) one, he protests too much.

Ultimately, though, it's not just the fate of the American Jewish novel but the fate of the Jewish people—and their relationship to chosenness, nationhood, violence, power, messianism—that is at stake here. I don't want to give away too much, but let's just say a hostage situation arises, during which Gurion tells a hostage negotiator to get Roth on the phone. This is a pretty good joke—a young Jewish writer is so desperate for a pat on the head from his literary hero that he sets up a life-or-death situation that will force the author to talk to him.

But Levin won't let it rest there. Roth finally does get on the phone.

"So what do you want from me?" he asks.

Nothing, says Gurion.

"You're hard to get a hold of," he says to Roth. "You bought me fifty-something minutes."

In the meantime, he has beaten a boy senseless. ■

Reprinted from Tabletmag.com, a new read on Jewish life.

Holocaust scholar, continued from page 1

of Children and Youths at Buchenwald," Ken Waltzer, professor and director of Jewish Studies at Michigan State University, will discuss the ways in which his study of Buchenwald has enabled him to explore the subject of rescue as a more complicated motivation than pure altruism; instead, he's discovered that it is conducted in clandestine networks and often motivated by political resistance rather than pure altruism.

Ken Waltzer

"My study of Buchenwald enables me to explore these matters, for child rescue there involved rescue inside a concentration camp (not hiding to keep people out of camps) and it involved political resistance," Waltzer explains. "And it involved, to some extent, Jews rescuing other Jews. I am currently completing a book, *Telling the Story: The Rescue of Children and Youths at Buchenwald*, and working with a New York film production company on a film about Buchenwald, titled *Kinderblock 66*."

Waltzer was recently selected by the Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies to be among the first group to open up the Red Cross International Tracing Service Archives at Bad Arolsen in northern Hesse, Germany, and to advise the Center and Bad Arolsen on future directions in Holocaust scholarship based on the holdings in the archive. "I was also able to accomplish two noteworthy achievements while I was in Bad Arolsen and shortly after, I found the rescuer (Fyodor Michalischenko) of young Israel Meir Lau (Lulek). (Michalischenko has been honored as a Righteous Among the Nations posthumously by Yad Vashem.) I also discovered the Holocaust memoir fraud, *Angel at the Fence*, written by a Buchenwald survivor and promoted on the Oprah Winfrey show for years as 'the greatest love story ever told.' As the *New Republic* concluded, it was instead 'the greatest love story ever sold.'" ■

The lecture will begin at 7 p.m. at 202 South Thayer Street, Room 2022. This lecture is free and open to the public. Visit www.lsa.umich.edu/judaic/ for a complete schedule of Frankel Center events.

Wallenberg Medal, continued from page 1

"and the weapon used to destroy them, their families and whole communities, is rape." Panzi Hospital is the frontline of this war. Hundreds of thousands of women have been raped in the last twelve years, and Mukwege has treated 21,000 of them, many more than once. He performs up to ten surgeries a day during his eighteen-hour work days. He says that his patients often arrive at the hospital naked, bleeding, and with severely damaged reproductive organs.

"You know, they're in deep pain. But it's not just physical pain. It's psychological pain that you can see. Here at the hospital, we've seen women who've stopped living," Mukwege told *CNN*'s Anderson Cooper. Many of the women he treats are blamed for what happened to them and then shunned because of fears they've contracted HIV and because their rapes were so violent they can no longer control their bodily functions.

Panzi Hospital today is providing rape victims with psychosocial support, vocational training, medical and other support for those with HIV, and care for children who were conceived through rape. The hospital has developed strong connections with other medical institutions worldwide.

Mukwege has recently been the recipient of several major awards, including the first African of the Year Prize and the UN Prize in the Field of Human Rights. In 2009 he received the Swedish Olaf Palme Prize for being "an admirable example of what courage, persistency, and enduring hope may accomplish for human rights and dignity in times when these values seem the most distant."

Mukwege hopes to draw the world's attention to the evil and brutality of rape in his country and the lasting damage to its victims. He and his wife and five children could easily move to Europe, but Mukwege chooses to stay at Panzi Hospital, where he continues to bring medicine, hope, and spiritual comfort to the women of the Congo, who have suffered from this violence.

A 1935 graduate of the University of Michigan College of Architecture, Swedish diplomat Raoul Wallenberg saved the lives of tens of thousands of Hungarian Jews near the end of World War II. Working in Budapest in the late 1930s, Wallenberg came into contact with many Jewish refugees.

In 1944, at the request of Jewish organizations and the American War Refugee Board, the Swedish Foreign Ministry sent Wallenberg on a rescue mission to Budapest. Over the course of six months, Wallenberg issued thousands of protective passports. He confronted Hungarian and German guards to secure the release of Jews whom he claimed were under Swedish protection, placing some 15,000 Jews into thirty-one Safe Houses.

After reporting to Soviet headquarters in Budapest on January 17, 1945, Wallenberg vanished into the Soviet Gulag. Although the Russians claim that Wallenberg died in 1947, the results of numerous investigations into his whereabouts remain inconclusive. ■

Vitals

Mazel tov

Max Bernstein on his bar mitzvah, November 13.
Guy and Inbel Shani on the birth of their son, Stav.
Leah Miller on her bat mitzvah, November 20.
Mira Heaney on her bat mitzvah, November 20.
Tori Garrett-Field on her engagement to Olan Noe.
Ketl Freedman-Doan and Peter Doan on the marriage of their daughter, Rachel, to Alex Yerkey, October 10.

Condolences

Elissa Benedek on the death of her mother, Tillie Panush.
Jack Fagin on the death of his daughter, Teri Fagin Martin, also sister of Sheryl Fagin.
Bobby Weisberg on the death of his grandmother, Dorothy Zimmerman.
Shirley Norton on the death of her sister, Miriam Brenner.
Ken Handwerger on the death of his mother, Ruth Handwerger, September 21.
Bruce Gimbel on the death of his wife, Deborah Gimbel, September 29.
Carol Amster on the death of her husband, Herb Amster.

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Praetorius	Magnificat II
Byrd	Miserere mei
Byrd	Miserere mihi, Domine
Pärt	Nunc dimittis
Pärt	Magnificat

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Late Breaking News: Vladimir Feltsman steps in to replace Murray Perahia, who canceled his entire fall tour because of a hand injury. He will perform Mozart's Fantasia in d minor; Schubert's Four Impromptus, Op. 90, D. 899; and Chopin's Four Ballades.

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